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The POLITICAL PAPER of the COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY of the UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA

PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

"The Communist's ideal should not be a trade-union secretary, but a tribune of the people, able to react to every manifestation of tyranny and oppression." Lenin

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EQUAL RIGHTS CONGRESS

The Communist Labor Party has always said that the onslaught of fascism in Anglo-America would hit first against the national minorities and particularly the Negro. This projection has not been made out of thin air, but rather on the concretes of the history of the development of this country. How could it be any other way, when fascism exists in both Puerto Rico and the Negro Nation.

Today's events most definitely bear this out. A day doesn't pass when events of police murder and Klan terror are not reported both in the North and South, and against particularly the Negroes. In the Southwest, the terror against the Mexican national minority and the vicious deportations of the Mexican workers have become a target of Klan activity in conjunction with the state apparatus.

As President Ford shouts that the depression is over, unemployment continues to rise, inflation skyrockets and the standard of living of the working class rapidly declines. While vetoing the free-lunch program, Ford declares that the defense spending is the most important aspect of American society. As he beefs up the military and the secret service, he does nothing to alleviate the desperate, miserable conditions of the working class.

In response to this devastating crisis, the workers have struck back, but always in an unorganized and spontaneous manner. In response to the police murders and Klan terror they have also fought back, but again without leadership, isolated from one another and eventually defeated.

These facts point to the crucial task that faces the Communist today, that is the building of our political party, independent from the bourgeoisie. Through the course of this struggle to build our party, we face the objective fact that our class is divided into many sectors. One sector which will never unite is the most bribed workers who are tied to imperialism by a thousand threads. But the majority of the class is objectively unitable. And the heart of our class, the semi-skilled and unskilled sectors, made up of many national minority workers, must be our first target in the struggle to unite our class. But this section also is fractured, each national minority fighting its own battle, and constantly being defeated. A good example is that of the struggle around busing and bi-lingual education. The bourgeoisie placed the question in such a way as to counterpose one to the other. Either busing or bi-lingual education. Thus we have seen the Puerto Rican and the Mexican on the one hand fighting against busing, while the Negro fights against bi-lingual education. This is not always the case, in fact there are many examples of national minorities who have united to fight for a common cause, but in the main, the heart of our fighting vanguard is fighting amongst themselves, thinking that only at the expense of the other will they get

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On November 11 the capitalists will again show-off their so-called reverence for the tens of thousands of workers who have died in their imperialist wars. As always, they will lump all their wars and all the veterans of these wars together. But as every veteran and every veteran's family knows, there was only one war in the last century in which USNA workers fought against the real oppressors of the working class, and that was World War II.

Millions died in this war at the hands of the German and Japanese fascists; but millions more returned from this war vowing that they would never allow fascism to grow in their countries. The capitalists cleverly utilized this mass hatred of fascism to turn the workers of this country against the workers of Korea, Vietnam, Cuba and dozens of other countries. They could only do this by equating fascism with communism.

Of course this is an insult to everyone old enough to remember that the first ones executed by Hitler were the communists, that the Soviet Red Army and Soviet people lost 20 million lives fighting the Nazis and were very instrumental in their final defeat. Hitler, like the present-day fascists, knew very well that the communists have always been the main leaders of the battle against fascism.

Hitler's National Socialists started off as a small grouping making lots of noise against the "big businessmen" even though history has proven it was these same monopoly capitalists who financed the Nazis. One of Hitler's main weapons was the fomenting of national and religious divisions within the German working class.

Hitler and all the fascist gangs in Germany were not stopped in time. As a result tens of millions of workers lost their lives. Millions more were tortured. The whole world paid a dear price in order to defeat the fascists.

What is the Situation Today

In the last few months, we have seen the rise of the Nazis and Klan here in our own country. At first sporadic reports were heard about Nazi activity, but as the days go by, the reports become more and more regular. Across the country, the examples of Nazi and Klan terror are mounting. In September, in Pasadena, California, a Negro national minority Minister, Reverend Bailey was lynched by the Nazis. He was found hanging from a tree with three swastikas painted on his sweatshirt and the message, "This is what will happen to people who are for busing!" Although Reverend Baily was found before he died, the aim of the fascists is clear, turn back the wheels of history to the dark days of slavery for the Negro people. In Chicago, Illinois, the weekend of October 12, the Nazis marched into the Negro community of West Englewood, attacking people and wrecking homes. With the support of some Anglo-American gangs, some lumpen elements of the Marquette Park community, veteran Nazis who fled the socialist upheaval in Europe, started their "March for White Pow-

SMASH THE NAZIS



WORKERS, ORGANIZE TO FIGHT FASCIST GANGS!

er." Their expressed aim was to "keep the community safe from the niggers!" These fascist scum gathered outside the home of Frank Haley, taunting threats and throwing rocks. Only when he appeared and shot a gun into the air did they stop their obscenities. This particular area of Chicago has seen increased Nazi terror in the past months. And the Nazis are planning to march again through this community on the evening of November 6. These Nazis have been encouraged by the bleeding-heart liberals of the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) who have defended the Nazis' "right" to hold rallies and demonstrations, stating that they defend anyone who has their civil rights violated!

Who is Behind these Fascist Gangs

At first glance it would appear that these fascists gangs are only "lunatics" or derranged people who are just filled with "hate". Many people have reacted to the reports of Nazi terror with exclamations of horror, but stating there was no need to worry, fascism could never take root here. But it must be understood that these fascist gangs, like Hitler was before them, are backed and financed by the most rapacious, chauvinistic and imperialistic sections of the bourgeoisie. The backers of the Nazis and Klan are the Rockefellers, the Morgans et. al., who direct their every move. The capitalists at this point cannot "openly" declare their support of fascism because of the mass hatred of it; so they wait for these groups to "lay the groundwork" and then they side with reaction. A good example of this is President Ford, who waited for the KKK and ROAR to create the conditions in Boston and Louisville, and only then did he make it public that he was joining up with the anti-busing fascist forces.

What Can We Do?

First of all we must never forget the lessons of Nazi Germany or fascist Japan. The tactics of the Nazis today are the same as they were some forty years ago. First they begin the ideological preparations with their white chauvinism and anti-communism followed with the terrorizing, beatings, and lynchings; then when they have disorganized and properly disoriented

the workers' movement, they take hold of the state apparatus and do away with the bourgeois democratic form of government. In Germany it was the Jews who were the target and scapegoat of Hitler's wrath. But this target was used only in order to enslave the whole of the German working class. Today the tactic is the same. The Negroes are the target of the fascists. They march, demonstrate, terrorize and propagandize against the Negro. But we must not be fooled into thinking that the Negro is the real target. No, it is the Anglo-American working class who is the target of the fascists.

The fascists are mobilizing and organizing. Their terror must be met by the working class. A defense of the Negro people must be made now! The liberals and the revisionists declare that the state apparatus will take care of the Nazis. But in Marquette Park, the police openly sided with the Nazis; in Louisville, President Ford openly sided with the Klan and in Harlan County, Kentucky, the sheriff is a Klan member. The state apparatus, the bourgeois parties, the so-called liberals of this country are daily opening the door for the fascists to move in. If fascism is to be stopped, the workers are going to have to do it themselves. This means uniting all who can be united against the fascists. It means publicizing, propagandizing, exposing and dealing with the Nazis, the Klan and all the fascist gangs.

It is in this light that we propose making this Veterans' Day an anti-fascist holiday. The CLP urges the workers and their organizations to gather together on the upcoming Veteran's Day weekend for forums, rallies, and mass demonstrations, to start defending ourselves against the fascist forces. We urge all workers and progressives in Chicago to defend the Negro families of Marquette Park. All workers up and down the Western coast must organize and defend the rights of the Negro people and protest the lynching of Reverend Bailey. Now is the time! Fascism can happen here! The true sentiments of the people of this country are against fascism. We must take these sentiments

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VETS ON THE MARCH

Veterans today are marching against fascism and for Jobs with Peace. In 1932, Veterans marched too, seeking justice from the government they had served but received bullets and tear gas instead. They came to Washington, 25,000 strong, with their wives and children, to demand immediate payment of the "Bonus", a sum of \$50-\$100 owed to each man who had fought in WW I, which the government refused to pay until 1945. The marchers had traveled from as far away as Alaska, many on foot. They set up camps at 3rd St. and Pennsylvania Avenue and at Anacostia Flats and stayed for three months demanding that Congress grant the Bonus. In June, the government decided that they must be dispersed.

First the Washington police were called out — they attacked the Veterans' encampment, killed two marchers, but were driven off. Then the army was called out under the command of General Douglas MacArthur, Colonel Dwight Eisenhower and Major George Patton. The army assault was delayed while MacArthur sent for his dress uniform from a near-by fort. The troops moved in with cavalry, tanks, bayonets, machine guns, and tear-gas. They killed an eleven week-old baby and wounded hundreds. The Veteran's Bonus march of 1932 was an important battle in the struggle of the USNA working class. Only 7 years later WW II broke out, and 16 million men and women enlisted in the USNA armed forces to fight fascism. 405,000 gave their lives in that struggle and 670,000 were wounded.

Today we must continue that struggle. Gangs of fascist thugs are springing up across the country. The Nazis march openly down the streets of many USNA cities. The white-hooded Klan is seen around the country. We vow this Veteran's Day that the war the whole world fought against fascism, led by the heroic Soviet Union, will not be forgotten — that we will continue that battle until the last fascist is dead!

Today, we march again for Jobs with Peace and justice for Veterans. We remember the Bonus March and its brutal suppression. We have seen how the army has been used to crush the popular uprisings then, and later in Watts and Detroit. We have seen the imperialist wars of aggression waged by the USNA government in Korea and Vietnam.

This Veteran's Day we call for Jobs with Peace and an end to the fascist assaults against the working class. Long live the Veteran's Bonus March of 1932!

VETERAN'S DAY

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and organize this mighty proletarian army into a force which can do away with the fascists. The CLP suggests that the following demands serve as the rallying point for Veteran's Day:

1. Smash the Klan, Nazi Party, Posse Comitatus and all other fascist gangs!
2. A job for every worker at the expense of the military budget!
3. End all deportations of undocumented workers!
4. No USNA military interventions in Southeast Asia or the Middle East!
5. Support busing — Nationalize education!
6. Nationalize the energy industry!

The Communist Labor Party urges all workers and progressives to attend a meeting on November 4 at 1901 W.

YOUTH IN STRUGGLE

We are reprinting the following article from *Youth in Struggle*, the official newsletter of the Los Angeles Young Communist League (Vol. I No. 1).

Who are the Youth? They are usually thought of as foolish, crazy, dope-smoking, neophytes of life. In the press, in the movies and T.V., the picture painted of youth is sordid and degenerate. These are the lies we live with.

Then there is unemployment, lack of decent activity, and the fascists' degeneration of our lives. Those are the bleak prospects that have been laid before us. Without a real alternative, many of our youth are driven ideologically as well as physically on a pro-fascist road. That is the ugliness we face every day.

But we disagree with the above condemnations of youth. We believe there is another road. The majority of youth in this country are fine and moral. We are human beings with human wants and needs. We too desire a new and better world...a world of peace, a world where we can expand our knowledge and widen our horizons. In the cities, in working class neighborhoods and slums, we are being crushed by bourgeois ideology.

The young mind is an inquisitive mind. What a crime to stifle such a mind. When we get older, it is when we were young that we have our most

memorable moments. That is the greatest time of our life...fresh, full of vitality. That is when our senses are most keen and our feelings most deep.

Yet in this parasitic imperialistic-natured society, our youth are being slowly smothered.

The fascists feed us drugs, gangs, and untimely death. How many times have we wept at funerals of fallen brothers and sisters who have paid (with their lives from-Ed.) overdoses, gang war, Viet Nam war, and police killings. How many of us have been stagnated in grimy factories and behind prison walls. We forget nothing, we forgive nothing!

Yet the working class fights back and every new day is a move forward toward the emancipation of our class.

Its youth are the future. We can make a difference in this society. We are not slaves to our surroundings; we are not pawns to fate. For the future is in our hands. Our destiny is in our minds. In essence we are masters of our environment.

The capitalist system seems like it always was here, and it will always be here. We are led to believe that we cannot do anything to change it, that our lives are not worth a thing! That is a lie, like a mountain being smaller than a leaf to the eye!

The working class, with the youth on its side, can liberate mankind.

WHAT IS THE Y.C.L.?

EQUAL RIGHTS CONGRESS

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what they want. We saw this same situation during the years of Lyndon Johnson's War On Poverty program, when the national minorities fought over the measly crumbs that the government threw to them. It was at this time that the nationalist movement became the strongest, isolating each other from the other's struggles. These separatist movements always were crushed and the bourgeoisie as always was the winner. Just recently, in the Negro newspapers in Los Angeles, vicious attacks against Mexicans were reported, and the Negro "spokesmen" came out in defense of deportations, stating that the Mexicans were taking jobs from the Negroes. The role of these so-called leaders of the national minorities is to continue this divisiveness.

The examples of disunity are endless, but the question that remains is what can we do about it! It is easy to point to a problem and state it is a problem, but it is much harder to find the solution. But finding solutions is what leadership is, finding solutions is the job of the communists and through resolving these contradictions raising the level of the workers who we are in contact with and recruiting them into the party.

The leadership of the CLP, understanding that the first step in uniting the sections of the class who can be united, by uniting the national minority workers, is proposing the formation of an Equal Rights Congress. This Congress would be an umbrella organization which could unite all the "grass root" groupings and individuals who are daily engaged in the battle for the equal rights of minorities; the People's Defense Committees, the block clubs, the anti-deportation groups, the many boycott groups, etcetera. We are not proposing another party "front" group, which many times is isolated and separate from the workers' struggles, but an organization which can bring under its wing the thousands of workers who are already engaged in the struggle for equality and freedom. These workers, in the vanguard of the proletariat, must be made to understand that their struggles isolated and separate from the general political struggle will never succeed. These workers must be shown that the unity of the national minority

The Los Angeles Young Communist League was born on August 26, 1974. Next month will be a year of our official existence. This newsletter that you are reading is our official press.

We are youth sympathetic to socialism and dedicated to the fight for the needs of youth, the war against fascism, and in the spirit of soldiers, we fight for the end of the capitalist system and the exploitation of man by man. We are action-oriented.

We are conscious warriors in a war between the fascist, degenerate, war-thirsty, Ku Klux Klan, parasitic forces and the decent, democratic-minded, progressive forces for peace. We stand with the latter forces as front line fighters.

We are angry, yet solemn in our tactics.

We are a fighting, militant organization, yet with clear, sober goals in mind.

We are seeded in the struggle today for the immediate needs of young people—for jobs, social activities, dances, quality education, decent and wholesome recreation and sports.

We are a revolutionary alternative to what has been offered us.

Our aims are clear for all to see. We hide nothing from our working class and its youth. We present the truth of this capitalist system through study and practical activity.

In upcoming issues of our newsletter we will present our program, our demands, and our overall goals. We look forward to meeting new people, new ideas, and more struggle for clarity.

workers will mean the unity of our class. Unless we can unite the core of the proletariat, we will be unable to unite the rest of our class.

Our Party has understood that the national minorities are always the most vulnerable because of national oppression, but the time of well-meaning words, sweeping generalities and big talkers is over. The bourgeoisie is organizing and mobilizing all that they can, daily driving the wedges between the various sectors of the class further. Their tactics have not been of simply stating the problem and forgetting it, but rather of motion and organization. It is high time that the communists do the same. The recognition of the problem is the first step and now we must take the second step which is the organization of the proletariat.

Every party member must begin this process immediately. We must begin to search out and contact the various groupings and individuals who can be won over to such a program. Begin to actively participate in and support these groupings in their battles, but always bringing to the forefront the questions of unity both politically and organizationally. Comrade Stalin stated that communists are people of a special mold, people who feel deeper and see further. If our party is to recruit into its ranks the fighting heart of the proletariat then we must be a party of action and not simply words. No one can say exactly what kind of form this Congress will take. Through the comrades' work around the Congress will emerge an organizational form.

But the struggle for the unity of the national minority workers is a life and death issue. If we cannot unite these sections of the class, we will be unable to unite the other workers. No Anglo-American worker will fight with us, unless we fight for the interests of those workers on the "bottom". The importance of this work cannot be overemphasized. Its success or failure will be a determining factor in the success or failure of our party to become the vanguard and general staff that we all speak so much about.

Comrades, let us make our slogan of independence and liberation for the oppressed nations a living reality. Let us move now to build this Equal Rights Congress and by doing so build our Party into a viable political force in society.

For more information about the Communist Labor Party USNA or about the People's Tribune, write:

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Lean el
**TRIBUNO
POPULAR**

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

69th St., Chicago, Ill., to plan a mobilization in defense of the Negro families in Marquette Park. Joining with the CLP is the Stop the Klan Committee, the Concerned Black Fathers, and some block clubs. These forces will be attending a City Council meeting to demand that the City Council ban the Nazis and instruct then to take down their sign, "Stop the Niggers!"

Remember the Nazis will march again on November 6 in Marquette Park. We must mobilize against them!

SMASH THE NAZIS!

Read the
**WESTERN
WORKER**
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Los Angeles, California

SOUTHERN COLUMN

LOUISIANA

Presently in the Negro Nation the Ku Klux Klan is actively engaged in stripping the Negro people of all the civil rights they have fought and died for.

In a small town in southeast Mississippi called Moss Point a large section of the Negro community is waging a strong fight to free Christopher Moore, a Negro worker who is facing the electric chair on a frame-up murder charge. In response, the Klan held a bicentennial parade. They rode through the heart of the Negro community 200 strong shouting slurs and insults such as "Chris Moore should have been dead."

A few months ago, after much publicity in newspapers and on billboards along main streets, the Klan held a rally in St. Bernard parish directly outside of New Orleans, featuring a 50-foot cross lit with light bulbs. During Mardi Gras this year, while people were enjoying the parades in a festive mood, the Klan was busy putting leaflets on parked cars' windshields. A few weeks ago in New Orleans the Klan held a demonstration around a monument located in the heart of town which had been erected in tribute to white supremacy. At the demonstration the Klan proudly declared that since Martin Luther King had his monument, this was theirs. On October 3rd, the Klan held another rally which was advertised in boldface print in the *Times Picayune*. The ad invited those who are opposed to busing for integration, those who are opposed to "reverse discrimination" against "white" people in jobs, promotions and scholarships. It invited those who think stronger action needs to be taken against violent criminals in the New Orleans area to come and hear speakers, including David Duke, and promised great musical entertainment. Duke, candidate for state senator and KKK Grand Dragon, wants to use the KKK program openly as his political platform. In response to criticism from political opponents on this he compared his membership in the KKK to the membership of some other state legislators in the NAACP. As if the two could be compared! Anyone would think that this rally was a local PTA meeting or respectable civic affairs group calling on citizens to become active in fighting for their rights. But this ridiculously thin veneer of legality and respectability cannot even begin to cover up what the Klan stands for. Murder, extortion and the terrorizing of not only the Negro people but anyone who is for equality and democracy is what they have always represented.

While these acts of the Klan must not go unchallenged, some respected Negro Peoples' organizations have totally turned their heads to these unhooded murderers, leaving the Negro people at their mercy.

The connection between the illegal work of the Klan and the legal maneuverings of the bourgeoisie is clearly demonstrated in the actions of New Orleans District Attorney Harry Connick, who is rapidly getting laws passed which aid the Klan in their open fascist work. Here are some examples: 1) A person cannot shoot an intruder inside their home unless threatened physically. 2) Anyone convicted of a felony cannot carry a firearm. 3) If a person is on trial for more than one charge the D.A.'s office can lump all the charges together into one big one. 4) If a person is arrested for a crime they have been previously convicted of, their record can be used against them in court. The person will then be tried on a "multiple offenders" provision which guarantees stiff sentences and the loss of parole.

Since the Klan receives police escorts and protection at their functions these laws are obviously not intended to be used against them.

Therefore, at this time we must re-

MISSISSIPPI

On Saturday, October 11, 1975, 125 people marched more than nine miles across rural Hinds County, Mississippi, from Clinton to Bolton, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the march of Charles Caldwell. The march was sponsored by the Bicentennial Committee of Mississippi and Bolton's Negro mayor, Bennie G. Thompson. Both Negroes and Anglo-Americans participated in the march. The significance of this march lies in the meaning of the struggle of Charles Caldwell.

Charles Caldwell was a hero of Reconstruction in Mississippi. He was a slave for all but the last ten years of his life when he became a blacksmith in Clinton, Mississippi. In 1870, he was elected to the Mississippi state senate and in 1875 he was appointed a captain in the state militia being organized by Reconstruction Governor Adelbert Ames to fight the terrorists who, at the instigation and with the aid of the southern planters, were struggling to destroy Reconstruction in Mississippi.

Caldwell's assignment in October, 1875, was to march with his regiment from Jackson, Mississippi, to Edwards' Depot and deliver arms and ammunition to a newly formed company in Edwards' Depot. Caldwell's regiment marched directly through Clinton, which at that time was the heart of the terrorists. Caldwell left Jackson with 102 Negro militiamen and returned with three hundred, two-thirds of them armed. It was a truly amazing feat of courage and leadership.

However, Governor Ames eventually capitulated to the terrorists and disbanded the militia. With the removal of federal troops a short time later, this act guaranteed the defeat of Reconstruction in Mississippi. On December 25, 1875, Charles Caldwell and his brother were brutally assassinated in Clinton, Mississippi, by the same terrorists against whom Caldwell earlier mobilized the Negro people of Hinds county.

Reconstruction and Charles Caldwell should not be confused with the present so-called "New South." The New South is a product of imperialism. While it is a fact that segregation has been eroded to a degree by the industrialization of the New South power still remains in the same hands, i.e., the bourgeoisie of the oppressor Anglo-American nation. The Negro Nation remains the most important colony of the USNA.

The bourgeoisie of the North could not tolerate the level of democracy in the South which Reconstruction represented. Under Reconstruction, Negroes held major political office, e.g., a United States senator from Mississippi. The struggle for land redistribution and land reform was at the heart of Reconstruction.

The bourgeoisie of the North understood this potential and the potential loss. Thus, it was in their direct interest to sabotage and destroy Reconstruction.

The defeated bourgeois slave masters of the South, having been defeated in their attempt to secede from the Union now became the direct protectors of the USNA's foremost colony, the Negro Nation.

Some day school children in Mississippi, in the Negro Nation and in Anglo-America, both Negro and Anglo-American children, will read and study about Charles Caldwell. But, that day will not come until the Negro Nation is free!

FREE THE NEGRO NATION!

cognize that the best defense is a good offense; we must look toward the building of an Equal Rights Congress to unite all progressive forces in society to stand and fight against the Klan and all fascist gangs!

FREE UNIVERSAL MEDICAL CARE

Understaffed, dirty, antiquated hospitals unable to cope with sick patients lying on beds in the corridors . . . shortages of blood, of suture material and life-saving drugs . . . thousands of people in need of hospital care sent away from emergency rooms with heart attacks, strokes, or bleeding ulcers because there is no room for them inside . . . waits of ten or more hours before being seen . . . patients shaken down for up to \$54 for a clinic visit and over \$200 for a day in the hospital . . .

This is the real picture of public hospitals in this, the richest country in the world. As a result, all workers feel the constant fear of sickness or injury, knowing they would be unable to pay bills, refused care or turned away. At the same time, hospital workers, daily confronted with the grim spectacle of suffering people, impossible working conditions and inadequate facilities are also threatened with layoffs and unemployment as more and more public hospitals cut services or close down. In response, hospital workers in Chicago and New York are on the move.

CHICAGO

On October 17th, 350 interns and resident doctors at Chicago's Cook County Hospital gave notice that they would strike on October 27 if their salaries weren't increased, their working hours reduced to 80 per week, and patient care at the hospital improved. At the same time, clerical workers in the hospital's AFSCME local 1111 are fighting against the union-busting campaign of the Hospital Governing Commission. Workers in SEIU local 46 have been working without a new contract for months, negotiations have broken down and a strike is likely. The harassment of all employees is escalating—speed-ups, increased work load, hiring freeze, new schedule regulations and abuse by security officers are on the rise.

The struggles at Cook County Hospital clearly demonstrate how the bourgeoisie pushes the crisis onto the backs of the workers—every struggle of the workers has been used as an excuse to further reduce the services that the hospital provides to all working people in the Chicago area. Following a strike of registered nurses in 1972, licensed practical nurses were laid off and 300 patient beds eliminated. In the last five years the hospital's patient capacity has been cut 25%, while the hospital director stated recently he plans another 50% cut and clearly intends to use a strike as an excuse to lay off employees, close down beds, and then blame it on the workers.

NEW YORK

This trend which can be seen developing in Chicago, has reached crisis level in New York. Closing in on default, the city government of New York, now directly in the hands of the finance capitalists, is attempting to close 19 public municipal hospitals which are the main source of medical care for the several million New Yorkers who are out of work or too poorly paid to afford private care.

But the "crisis" in New York is being and will be repeated in major cities throughout the country as the most fascist elements of finance capital consolidate their grip on the state in preparation for a fascist dictatorship. For many years the bourgeoisie has wondered how to stop using our tax money to subsidize municipal hospitals (since most workers are too poor to pay their bills) and how they can channel this money into the private hospitals. Over the last few years they have developed the policy of piecemeal closures in some city hospitals as the prelude to complete closure of all city hospitals. Thus, for example, nur-

ses lost through attrition are not replaced; when there are no longer enough nurses to staff all the wards, the hospital closes a few wards, consolidates the workers, lays off clerks, aides and janitors and waits again for the number of nurses to drop enough to close another ward. Thus we see the outrageous situation of empty wards facing overflowing wards; while "empty bed" statistics are used by the health bureaucrats to "prove" that hospitals are "under utilized" and thus should be closed.

New York health commissioner Lowell Bellin has announced his intention to close all city hospitals: "My only concern is for an orderly transfer in keeping with what is inevitable—that of voluntary (private) hospitals replacing the municipals." We thank Mr. Bellin for his frankness. His concern is certainly not for the suffering of the masses. In a private memo urging the closing of more city hospitals, Bellin's staff wrote, "The only detriment might be the community demonstrations which might confront the city. These pressures which may be considerable as demonstrations staged by people in wheelchairs and on stretchers and possible job actions from the unions could create a lot of bad press."

The rationale for closing public health facilities is that national health insurance will soon be passed by Congress and every worker will be able to go to a private hospital that provides "better care." Of course undocumented workers will immediately be excluded from care. Moreover, the plans for national health insurance now being proposed in Congress are reactionary steps backward that would actually force us to pay more money to receive less medical care. The essence of the legislation is a forced tax to subsidize the profits of the private health insurance companies. Turning city hospitals over to the private health industry will mean that all patients become as shamelessly exploited as are the elderly now in private nursing homes set up to milk Medicare money.

The imperialists are thoroughly prepared to sacrifice the city hospitals, lay off hospital workers and plunge the working class, the elderly, the infirm and unemployed into poverty and despair. Workers of all nationalities, across the country, must rise up in defense of themselves and their children, parents and fellow workers. All should support the just demands of militant hospital workers who have taken up as a demand improvement of working conditions and patient care. But the struggles in the hospitals are a part of the struggle of the working class against fascism, against the attacks on the Negro, the progressive, eventually against every worker. The struggles in the hospitals are integrally entwined with the struggles against the Klan and Nazi Party and for Jobs with Peace. The Communist Labor Party calls for jobs for all workers, an end to fascist gangs and the rapid advance of fascism, an end to all attacks on the living standards of the workers and for free universal medical care! The fight against fascism affects one and all and pervades every sphere of life; the only defense of our class, the only hope for a decent life free of fear, worry, and poverty, is to unite all the struggles of the working class, smash the fascist gangs and fight for socialism. Only then can hospitals produce health care for the masses rather than profits for the imperialists!

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NEW YORK CITY BANKS OUT FOR BLOOD

The headlines blared "New York to Default", "The Big Apple has gone Under!" From coast to coast the news that New York City would default made top news on Friday, October 17, 1975. The bourgeoisie and their communications monopoly made it appear as if the pension fund of the teacher's union was the only salvation for New York City. Nowhere did they mention, and this was to be expected, that it is the banks that are strangling New York to death with their 12% interest on their million dollar bonds. So as they literally twisted Mr. Shanker's arm, they saved New York once again from default.

The situation in New York City is deplorable for the working class. Needless to say, as it gets worse for the workers it gets better for the capitalists, and particularly the Rockefeller family who in essence own New York City. Unemployment there is 12%, one million people are unemployed, and the projections for next spring put the rate at 16%, or a 25% increase. During the next three months, it is estimated that over 300,000 people will exhaust their unemployment benefits!

As the unemployment benefit funds go dry, the Welfare Department is making tremendous cut-backs. There are approximately one million people in New York City on welfare. That figure amounts to 1 out of every 8 or 9 people who receive welfare. To make matters worse, the Welfare Department has announced that they will cut 10% of the rolls which means 100,000 people will be thrown out into the streets! One of the immediate cut-backs was a reduction in the money to those recipients who don't pay heat. With the winter coming on, they have in essence turned off the heat in the homes of thousands of workers! It has been estimated that on the average, a family receives from welfare \$3.46 per day, which is supposed to feed, house, clothe, transport and provide health facilities for these people. The City spends almost as much money on policemen and more money on the interest on the bonds than they do on welfare!

The city municipal workers have probably been one of the hardest hit sections of the workers in this crisis. They comprise a work force of more than 300,000 workers and represent 50-60% of the city's budget. Just recently the city laid-off 37,000 of these workers; the plans are for another lay-off of 15,000 more workers and the city will forceably retire another 16,000 by June 1, 1976. The City also has announced a plan which will cut-off workman's compensation and institute a three year wage freeze. The city government is literally busting the unions of municipal workers. The teacher's contract, just won by their recent strike, is now null and void!

The list goes on and on, as the workers both employed and unemployed of New York City are being snuffed out by the big financiers. A day doesn't pass when the workers don't protest and demonstrate against their rapid strangulation! The state had passed a law which allows welfare groups to distribute literature inside the welfare centers. For days on end now the Welfare Workers for Justice have been distributing their leaflets inside the centers. And in the last week these people have come within an eye tooth of being arrested for their efforts to try and organize the workers against the fascist attacks by the government. Their program is a simple one: End face to face recertification, end all cut-backs and cancel the bank interest. These workers, as many thousands of others, un-

derstand that it is the big monopolies who are killing New York. This crisis is not only economic, but political. The government's crunch is part of the fascists' move to consolidate their hold on the state apparatus.

Last week, 3,000 working mothers took time-off from work to protest and demonstrate against the closing of day-care centers. Women workers in New York make on the average of \$80-110 a week. Without free day-care facilities they cannot work. And must go on welfare. They demonstrated last week under the slogan, "We have a Right to work!"

Every worker has a right to work, but the capitalists cannot provide us with that right. Their system is dead! Capitalism does not work! The crisis of New York is only one of the examples of the moribund nature of

the capitalist system. There is only one system which can provide jobs, housing, clothes, food and a decent life for workers, and that is socialism! It is only when workers run the society, that they can plan the economy and provide the necessities of life for all workers. The slogan of socialism is, those who do not work do not eat! That means all those big bankers will have to dig the ditches, mine the coal, sweat on the assembly lines and drive the trucks if they are to live! No more living off the blood and sweat of the workers! No more stealing from the city governments! No more crushing the workers movement in blood!

A very sad note to this tragedy is the way in which the Senior Citizens of New York are being treated. It is a published fact that senior citizens are the last priority, whereas there is

a law which says, if New York City defaults, the banks get paid first! What it means is that the senior citizens are going to starve to death! Although poverty stricken and many near desperation, they also demonstrated, 10,000 strong with signs that read "Nationalize the Economy!", "Give us our Fair Share!", and "I've worked 50 years, Don't cut me off!". The city's response to the elderly was to cut more public services.

The situation in New York City cannot be isolated or separated from the over-all crisis of this country. Nor can it be separated from the acts of terror by the fascist gangs and thugs. The move by the banks to choke New York City is a fascist move by the financial capitalists to consolidate their economic and political power. It is a definite move towards a fascist dictatorship. In the Congress, it was reported that our "representatives" have proposed that New York be put under the leadership of the fascist William Simon (we all remember him from the phoney energy crisis. He was the one who drained every penny out of our pockets for gas!), cut another billion dollars off the budget and raise another one-half billion dollars by raising the taxes of the workers of New York City. This move by the federal government to intervene obviously on the behalf of the banks, clearly shows the intent of our government officials and who they represent.

The Communist Labor Party, although understanding that socialism is the only answer to the crisis of New York City, to the increased fascist violence against the working class and the rapid moral and cultural deterioration of our society, puts forward the following program to rally all those who want to fight against this capitalist system and impending fascist onslaught by the imperialists for the New York area:

1. No more cut-backs in city services. Rehire all laid-off workers. Restore all pension funds and recognize all union contracts.
2. End face to face recertification of welfare recipients. Restore all cut-backs in social services. Reduce subway fares to 35 cents for employed workers and 10 cents for unemployed workers.
3. Immediate cancelling of interests on all city debts.
4. Government officials to work at factory wages! Mandatory jail sentences for stealing by government officials from the city and eliminate all personal privileges of city officials.
5. Tax the banks, not the workers!

With this program and our understanding that the salvation of the working class lies in the struggle for socialism, we will rally the workers and progressive people of New York City to defend and protect the gains that they have made, defend and protect the national minority workers who are the hardest hit by this crisis and force the banks to pay for their crisis! Workers throughout the country must not only support the heroic New Yorkers in their struggle, but must take up the call and organize wherever they are for peace, equality and a decent life!

For those workers who want to "Fight City Hall" in New York, please contact the CLP at:

PO Box 170
Brooklyn, New York 11217

(212) 782-2695

**LONG LIVE SOCIALISM!
MAKE THE BANKS PAY!**



BANKS PUSH FASCISM! WORKERS FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM!

BROOKLYN KENTILE WORKERS FIGHT BACK

The workers at Kentile Floors Inc. are beginning to play a leading role in the struggle of the working class in New York City. For decades the plant has had a history of trade union militancy, from the founding of the unions, Local 457, United Rubber Workers and Lodge 295, International Association of Machinists, to the more recent contract strikes in 1957 and 1966. In order to win raises of only a few cents the workers have again and again spent six months or more in the streets, beating up scabs, fighting scores of police and having dozens of activists arrested. Through these struggles the workers have won job security, slightly higher pay and certain fringe benefits.

In recent years the struggles have become increasingly political. Every January 15 the plant is nearly closed by the massive spontaneous observance of Martin Luther King's birthday, expressing the workers' support for the civil rights movement and their opposition to white chauvinist discrimination in the plant and in society. Many workers participated in the civil rights protests and marches to which the union local often sent representatives.

When workers were laid off last January they formed the Unemployed Kentile Workers to leaflet the other workers, bring the union into the struggle for jobs and explain the link between unemployment and the growing danger of fascism and war. Workers attended the April 26 march for jobs in Washington, D.C., the May 17 march for busing in Boston and the August 16 Anti-Ku Klux Klan rally in New York city.

Recently the case of the Spencer family, newly emigrated from Trinidad, who were confronted with bombs, burnings and gun fire when they moved into an Anglo-American neighborhood, outraged the Kentile workers. A bus was rented and these workers led a rally in Rosedale, Queens, to protest the Ku Klux Klan and their local partners ROAR (Restore Our Alienated Rights) and to show that since the police are unwilling to protect our civil rights the workers are ready to do it themselves! This rally was an important step forward for the workers at Kentile and all of New York in the fight against fascism.

The Communist Labor Party supports these struggles; but in order to win, all workers must close ranks, and organize to build a fighting unity between the many sections of our class. Divisions between workers, encouraged by the company, must be broken down—divisions between different unions, between skilled and unskilled, between workers of different nationalities. Unions growing weak through these divisions and conciliation with the company must be democratized and revitalized. At the same time, the fighting leaders of the working class must be brought the spirit of communism, the fighting spirit of the Communist Labor Party, as the conscious guiding force in the struggles of all working people. Only with Kentile and all factories as fortresses of communism can the workers lead the coming battles to defend our class against fascism and forge onward to peace, democracy and socialism.