

TRUTH

A REVOLUTIONARY TROTSKYIST BULLETIN IN DETROIT

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27,974 votes for workers candidates!

27,974 working people in Michigan voted for William Roundtree, a working class candidate for governor, associated with the Workers World Party, and for other working class candidates on the ballot, on November 6.

This is only 1% of the total number of voters. But it is *three times* the number that voted for a working class candidate for governor in 1986 (Marty McLaughlin, Workers League, 9,477 votes). It is the *highest number* of voters that has ever voted for a single working class candidate for governor *in the entire history of Michigan*. (In 1932, a combined total of 29,439 voted for *four different* working class candidates.)

The Trotskyist Committee of Detroit urged workers to vote for Roundtree and other working class candidates. We found workers who had never heard of Roundtree or the Workers World Party, who were delighted to hear that there was any kind of working class candidate or party on the ballot, and who promised to vote for them on the spot.

We also talked to workers after the election. Some workers did not even know anything about Roundtree or the Workers World Party until they walked into the voting booth. When they saw the words "Workers World Party," they decided to vote for every one of its candidates. "I punched the hole for that workers party," said one autoworker.

This shows that there is a growing number of workers ready to vote for *any*

working class candidate or party against the privileged, upper class candidates and parties. They are absolutely correct. It is always best to support any working class candidate or party *against* the bourgeois candidates and parties, even if you are not in complete agreement with it.

More, it shows that the young generation of the working class has a tremendous opportunity before it. It can do something that has never been done before in this country. It can begin to build a *big* workers party based on the unions.

It can begin to fight for a workers revolution, in which the workers set up their own government, take over the big monopolies, develop a planned economy in the interests of the people, and begin to totally abolish want, suffering, and privileged, dictatorial classes and forces of all types.

The more workers struggle along these lines, the more they will see that it will be much easier to do this in the U.S. than it has been in the USSR, Eastern Europe, and China.

The U.S. economy is already totally dominated by huge monopolies that completely organize the production and distribution of goods. When the workers took power in the USSR, its economy was still dominated by small enterprises, there was difficulty feeding the people, workers had to totally devote themselves to their own survival, they

were not in a position to stop the rise of the privileged, dictatorial bureaucracy.

This will not happen in the U.S. When the workers party and the workers government take over the huge monopolies, they will be able to use these resources to feed, clothe, house, and provide for the needs of the people without much difficulty. They will have plenty of free time to devote to politics, so they will be able to keep backward elements that aim at the private accumulation of wealth at the expense of general poverty in line. Workers in the U.S. will even be able to use their resources to help workers in the USSR and other countries overthrow the privileged, dictatorial bureaucracies in these countries, build their own workers parties and workers governments, and get total control of their planned economies. Together they will build fully socialist and communist societies where there is no want, no suffering, and no privileged, oppressive forces of any kind.

We urge young workers and all working people and their organizations, especially Trotskyists, to enter into a common fight to build a *big workers party* based on the unions, with total confidence that their workers party will be able to resolve all the big problems facing working people today — the recession, the attacks on the Black people, the war ...

Build a workers party now! ■

SUPPORT THIS STRUGGLE — SUBSCRIBE TO TRUTH!

Statement to the November 14 rally against U.S. intervention in the Middle East

The Trotskyist Committee of Detroit expresses its solidarity with your struggle against U.S. intervention in the Middle East ...

— For immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. forces from the Middle East!

— For an end to the blockade!

— For an end to anti-Arab racism!

— For hands off Iraq!

None of these demands can be achieved without getting U.S. forces out of the Middle East. We urge all tendencies to make a common, united fight for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. forces, without any other pre-conditions.

The weakness of the anti-Vietnam war movement in the 1960s was not that it fought for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. forces, in popular terms, "Bring the troops home now!" or "Out now!" On the contrary, this was its strength, and the fruits of its efforts are manifest today in the widespread opposition to U.S. intervention that already exists.

The weakness of this movement was that its leaders and organizers did not concentrate enough effort on directly reaching and directly organizing the masses of workers.

The working class is the only class with the power to stop U.S. intervention in the Middle East once and for all; it is the only class with the power to dismantle the U.S.'s war machine.

This is why we urge all tendencies to make a common, united fight for immediate and unconditional withdrawal in the working class.

The more working class and popular tendencies struggle along these lines, the more difficult it will be for Bush to continue to throw the lives of working class youth away on war in the Middle East, on killing our brothers and sisters in the Middle East.

And the more millions will see the need and the power to build the big workers party that will lead the workers revolution, in which workers will establish their own government, take over the monopolies, develop a planned economy, and begin to totally abolish want, suffering, misery, and privileged, dictatorial classes and forces of all types, whether it is the privileged, dictatorial ruling class in the U.S., or the privileged, dictatorial bureaucracy in the USSR.

Neither the U.S. nor the U.N. have any right to be in the Middle East!

There is nothing to negotiate!

Bring the troops home now!

Out now!

Victory to the oppressed peoples of the Middle East!

Women against the war!

Polls say that the number of working people against U.S. intervention in the Middle East is rising; women especially are against U.S. intervention.

This is not surprising. At least 40 soldiers have already died in "accidents" and the shooting has not even started yet.

Working class women know that their children are the ones that are going to suffer and die fighting in a foreign land. They know that their families are the families that will suffer from rising prices and taxes to pay for the war. They know that all the things that women need so desperately to be truly free and equal — jobs, living wages, unions, quality childcare, quality schools, public homes, dining halls, laundries, etc. — will be put on the back burner as the society's resources are devoted to killing the Iraqi people, and other peoples of the Middle East, and to seizing their resources.

Working class women sense that they as women will suffer as war on oppressed peoples brings out the *worst elements* in this society — all the national chauvinists, racists, the macho-types, who think that the rest of the world was born to serve them. In fact, these are precisely the forces that the U.S. is supporting in the Middle East. The kings of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, with their millions and their harems, where women are not even allowed to leave their homes without being covered and accompanied

Briefly . . .

Supporters of the Revolutionary Workers League, a Trotskyist group, put forward a motion in the Tool and Die Unit in UAW Local 600 at the Ford Rouge plant, against U.S. intervention that said, among other things: "Whereas ... the U.S. military buildup in the Middle East is the largest U.S. intervention since Vietnam ... the intervention is designed to increase U.S. control in the Middle East, not to defend Arabs ... the large number of Arab-American workers at the Rouge, Local 600 and in Southeast Michigan makes it particularly appropriate for Local 600 bodies to take a position on the intervention ... therefore ... the United States should remove its troops, aircraft, and naval vessels from the Middle East, and should stop aiding Israel." They did not get the support necessary to pass the motion, but

men.

But it is not enough to oppose U.S. intervention in your head and your heart. Working class women need to *fight* U.S. intervention.

Working class women have the power to win their class brothers to this fight. They have the power to help them see that this war is not in the interests of the working class; the working class has nothing to gain from this war. They have the power to help them see that we, American working people, have more in common with the oppressed working people of Iraq than we have with George Bush and the band of billionaires that run this country.

There are many things that working class women can do. They can form committees against U.S. intervention and demand that Bush bring U.S. troops home now. They can circulate petitions, organize meetings, demonstrations, etc.

The more working people struggle along these lines, the more difficult it will be for Bush to continue to throw the lives of our children away. And the more working people will see the need and the power to build a *big* workers party, to lead a workers revolution, where workers establish their own government, take over the monopolies, and develop a planned economy, that provides all the things that women need to be truly free. ■

support for motions like this in the unions is going to grow.

The Trotskyist Committee of Detroit distributed 19 copies of *Truth* and 2 copies of *The Fourth International* at the Ford Rouge plant, Wayne County Community College, and at a meeting against U.S. intervention in the Middle East. We participated in the same meeting against U.S. intervention in the Middle East where we urged participants to make a common fight for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of U.S. forces from the Middle East.

Spark, a Trotskyist group, is holding a forum called: "The Intifada: the fight of the Palestinians can decide the fate of the Middle East." It will be Sunday, December 2, 5 p.m., at the Friends School, 1100 St. Aubin Blvd. (Near Lafayette and the Chrysler). \$2.50 for adults. \$0.75 for young people under 18.

TRUTH

A bulletin published by the Trotskyist Committee of Detroit.

The Trotskyist Committee of Detroit is named after Leon Trotsky, a leader of the first successful workers socialist revolution and a founder of the Fourth International, the world party of the socialist revolution. The Trotskyist Com-

mittee of Detroit is associated with one of the international tendencies of the Fourth International, the International League for the Reconstruction of the Fourth International.

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