

CHALLENGE-DESAFIO

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THE PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY FIGHTS FOR SOCIALISM. Socialism means liberation for the entire working class—the destruction of the bosses—a society of abundance and full employment—an end to exploitation—a secure and creative future for all workers—and an end to the racism, fascism and wars that are all products of capitalism.

In order to achieve socialism, the capitalist system, the bosses and their dictatorial government must be crushed. This cannot be accomplished peacefully through elections.

It can only happen when the majority of the exploited unite behind communist leadership, violently overthrow the bosses, and install a new government of revolutionary workers—the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Members of the PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY are devoted to this goal. They dedicated their lives to actively building, promoting and organizing for the cause of revolutionary communism.

The Progressive Labor Party and its newspaper, CHALLENGE, are dedicated to the U.S. working class and the working class of the entire world—black, Latin, white, Asian and Native American.

Our newspaper, CHALLENGE, strives to present the unconditional truth of class struggle, so our class can learn from experience how to win.

70 Million Won't Vote

All Capitalists Are Evil; Don't Vote for Any

As the "sleeping-pill" election winds down, the U.S. ruling class is in a frenzy over the prospect that over half the people of voting age will not even go to the polls. An orgy of last-minute appeals is flooding the press and airwaves: "It makes no difference who you vote for; just vote. Exercise your 'democratic' privilege in this bi-centennial year." It reached the ludicrous point of the *New York Times* chief foreign correspondent pleading that even if you dislike both candidates, it's your duty to vote for the one you hate the least! (The old "lesser evil" theory).

Why this hysteria? U.S. capitalism was built on the fraud that "the people decide." Now, despite the millions of words, the TV commercials, the "debates," the cries of "dangerous apathy," the machinations of Meany's AFL-CIO "leadership," the majority of U.S. citizens are deciding **not** to decide. Since there is generally a higher percentage of voters among professionals, the middle class, etc., an even lower percentage of the working class will cast ballots; possibly two-thirds of the workers in the U.S. won't vote! If all this happens, a president will be elected with about 25 percent of the electorate's votes. And of that minority, perhaps a third will be voting negatively, for a "lesser evil." That means that somewhere around 15 percent of all eligible voters will be actually voting for the "winner," or about one-sixth of everyone over 18! That IS something for the U.S. ruling class to worry about.

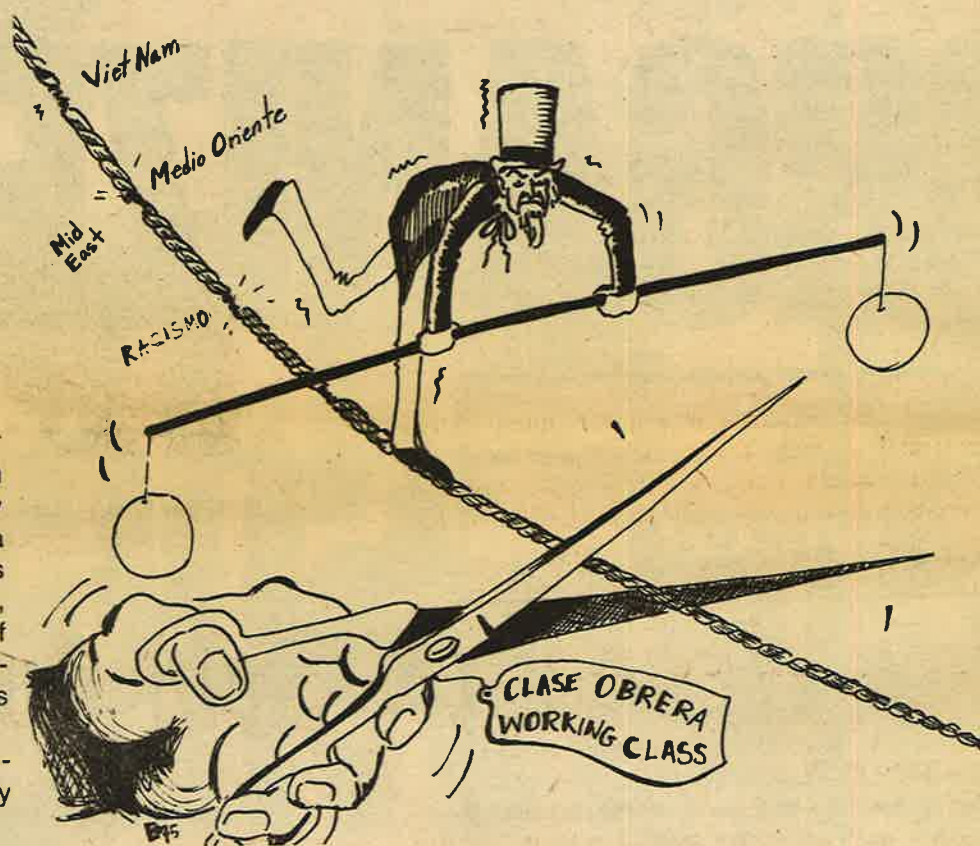
The "bi-centennial election" will go down in history not as a "re-affirmation" of capitalist "democracy," but rather as a majority rejection of this circus.

Progressive Labor Party Editorial

Actually the 200-year "heritage" of "our forefathers" has come full circle. When the framers of the U.S. bosses' constitution (particularly Hamilton and Madison) were trying to convince the merchants of New York and Pennsylvania to ratify that set of ruling-class laws, the arguments in the Federalist papers went like this: the property-less are in a majority; the property-holders are a minority. The danger always exists of the majority of landless violently overthrowing the minority of owners. The role of government—specifically this new U.S. constitution—is to prevent this from happening, to protect the minority of property-holders. Therefore, "we" need a **republic**, in which the minority rule, **not a democracy** in which the majority rule. So, there must be "checks and balances" to stop the majority from taking matters into their own hands: two houses of Congress with one (the Senate) not elected by popular vote (that came later, in 1913); a Supreme Court appointed by the President (who Hamilton wanted elected for life); property requirements for voting, etc.

Obviously these arguments convinced the rich N.Y. and Pennsylvania merchants, because they approved this bosses' document. Now, 200 years later, the property-less non-voting majority is expressing its non-belief in the capitalist "democratic process."

All this is no accident. U.S. "democracy" is actually an economic-political **class** system called capitalism. A class system is one in which one class that rules uses government (state power) to enforce its rule—in this case a minority of owners over a majority of workers (just as those "forefathers" envisioned). The electoral system, the "checks and balances," are part of this fraud. As the working class recognizes this and doesn't vote, it will be one more sign that the bosses will be unable to keep workers down under their "democracy,"



and lead the rulers—the Rockefellers, Kennedys, GM's, etc.—to solve their problems by moving to fascism. Them all facade is out the window—the bosses will rule with open, naked terror.

Therefore, the working class and its allies need to adopt these communist ideas—of **class** analysis—as our own, to reverse the process, to put the "property-less majority" on top and the bosses on the bottom, six feet under. That's called a revolution.

There is no "lesser evil." There is only one evil—capitalism; and it is **ALL** evil. It must be smashed and replaced with a working-class system, socialism, which is democracy for the overwhelming majority, the property-less. That democracy is not what those "forefathers" had in mind, but what they feared. A united, anti-racist, pro-working class, communist-led revolutionary movement can make those fears a reality.

CAPITALISM'S BI-CENTENNIAL 'CHOICE'

By DENNIS FARNEY and ALBERT R. HUNT
Staff Reporters of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WASHINGTON—Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, limping down the homestretch of an uninspiring campaign, have already made one outcome certain: The next President won't have a mandate....

"This election should have been a shoo-in," complains a Democratic leader in one major state. "The fact that it's even close shows what a lousy candidate and campaign we've got."

Mr. Carter's lead has shrunk dangerously in state after state, giving President Ford an outside chance of overtaking him. But Mr. Ford's hopes rest less on barnstorming

than on a television-advertising blitz that will overshadow the Carter television effort in the closing days. And a Ford upset would be due more to his opponent's shortcomings than to the President's own ability to sell his record and political philosophy.

A Plan for the Week

Conceding as much, a top Ford campaign strategist gives this tongue-in-cheek description of the plan for the final week: Flood the country with so much paid television, and so much activity by presidential supporters, that "presumably nobody will notice what the President is doing" as he barnstorms.

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