

FORD TRIBUNE

Issued by THE FORD SECTION OF THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY

April 13, 1976

KEEP THE ENGINE PLANT OPEN!

We the Communist Labor Party support the mass demonstration call by Local 600 concerning the massive layoffs coming at the Rouge late this June. At the mass Local 600 meeting where the demonstration was called, Vice-President of the Ford Dept., Ken Bannon, said that unless Ford Motor Co. does something about these layoffs there would be no 1976 contract. Bannon used this meeting as spokesman for the international union to push the "Buy American" line which is the same line as that of Thomas Murphy (Board Chairman of GM) and Henry Ford II. Ken Bannon singled out Brazil for attack, stating that in Brazil the auto workers earn between 83¢-93¢ per hour. The highest pay in a Brazilian auto plant is \$1.43 per hour, for a final line inspector!

BANNON, A MIS-LEADER?

Bannon never spoke to the fact that the only goods that are allowed to be exported to Brazil, by tariff restriction of the U.S., are capital goods, i.e. machine tools, finished products, money in the form of loans and investments. Bannon never spoke of the fascist rule in Brazil, a rule that forces the workers to accept the low wages. He never spoke to the fact that Brazil is just a neo-colony of the U.S. imperialist financiers and corporations.

We, the Ford Section of the Communist Labor Party, expose Ken Bannon because of the misleadership he is giving to the working class here at Rouge. A fine example is his attack on the shorter work week at the Local 600 meeting just held. Bannon said, "What we need is job security and not a shorter week, we need to fight to keep the Engine plant open and stop talking about the shorter work week." We ask, how can we fight for one and not the other? We already voted at the Bargaining Convention to make the shorter work week one of our demands!

Even though we resolutely support the Local 600 mass demonstration, we are at the same time outraged by some of the remarks made by Bannon. We workers at the Rouge are not going to be fooled by misleaders. We must unite throughout the Rouge and become active in the fight to **KEEP THE ENGINE PLANT OPEN**. We need to take this fight to the bargaining table, take it up in our own hands and make the Ford Motor Co. pay and guarantee jobs at the Rouge through - end compulsory overtime; strict adherence to a 35-hour work week (at 40 hours pay), no speed up and guaranteed safe and healthy working conditions. We demand full employment, a job for every worker!

Umpire Do Right!!

In our last two Ford Tribunes, we carried articles about the case of General Baker, who was fired from Dearborn Assembly Plant on April 15, 75. His discharge was an outright violation of the contract between the UAW and Ford Motor Co. The ruling, passed in 1945, over 30 years ago, on Falsification of Application, clearly states that there is a statute of limitations of 12 months on such cases. This ruling has never been attacked in the manner that is being attacked in the General Baker case. The case is scheduled to go before the umpire in July and we all need to show Ford Motor that we support Gen Baker and his right to a job. But more importantly, that we will not allow Ford to throw aside and rewrite a part of the contract that we and Ford workers before us fought and died for!

SUPPORT GENERAL BAKER!!

FIGHT FOR A BETTER CONTRACT!!

READ

THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

the paper of the Communist Labor Party
of the United States of North America

the bumper of profits from the colonies, capital and labor in the USNA now stand face to face, read to do battle. The bourgeoisie has already stated what it intends to do, in the words of former NAM president H.W. Prentis, who openly stated that "American business might be forced to turn to some form of disguised fascist dictatorship."

What we have in store for them right now lies ahead in our struggle around this contract. We must demand no more forced overtime and especially no overtime while other Ford workers are out on the street, and no more speed up or lay-offs for the duration of the contract. These are just a few demands we must push for, but we need to organize a militant Contract Committee, to insure that we have a real say in what happens when that contract gets signed. Watch for the details about when and where in the next FORD TRIBUNE AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL!!

NO SPEED-UP, NO LAY-OFF IN

'76 CONTRACT!!

Bang! Contract 76

The opening shot has been fired in the upcoming '76 contract. Thomas Murphy, chairman of the Board of General Motors, pulled out his Saturday night special at the New York Economic Club and proceeded to shoot holes in the USNA worker's standard of living.

One of the basic rules of capitalism is that it must constantly expand and seek new markets. It has now gone to the point where the whole world is divided into two camps, -1) countries economically based on socialism and 2) countries not only economically based on capitalism, but controlled but as we can see from Murphy's speech, only have intentions of draining everything they can get from us with speed-up. We all know what this means - more unemployment, low-seniority women and national minorities out on the street again, more injuries and even death on the job from exhaustion and unsafe working conditions and on and on.

But even more dangerous than all of this is that, in order to force workers to accept these conditions, the bourgeoisie must further increase its drive toward fascism here in the USNA. Without

by an international bourgeoisie.

Everyday we read in the news about another country throwing off the chains of this international bourgeoisie, achieving independence, and turning to the final task of building socialism. For many years, our standard of living, as workers in the USNA, has been much higher than that of workers in other countries. This is because, by making workers in other countries live under sub-human conditions, the bourgeoisie has been able to give American workers a bigger slice of the pie. But each time the bourgeoisie is thrown out of

one of these colonies, they must turn to their remaining sources of capital, which includes us, to make up for that profit lost.

What does this have to do with us workers at Fords? With contract time coming up we need to look at what the very people we will be negotiating with have on the agenda for us. Thomas Murphy, GM, and the National Association of Manufactures (NAM), whose money, capital and control is concentrated mainly within the USNA, have set out to regain their profits by simply saying that the American worker has had it too good, too long. Because of the world situation, they are no longer even in the position to be giving anymore little 'bennies' to USNA workers,

SIGN THE PETITION!

For the last week or so there have been members of our party standing at the gates distributing the FORD TRIBUNE and asking for people to sign a petition. What is this petition? This is a nominating petition to get our party on the ballot for the primary election. Every day the candidates of the two bourgeois parties scramble all over the country trying to speak for the working class. All they do is make mealy mouthed speeches, shake alot of hands, and make promises that change the next day, depending on the audience. They are all the same, bourgeois politicians.

What we need is our own independent voice. We need a voice of the working class from the working class. This voice can only come from a party whose only interest is our lives, jobs and families, not the special interests of the financiers and corporations. Such a party exists, the Communist Labor Party! Sometimes it gets mighty cold standing at the gates with the FORD TRIBUNE and the petition, but our comrades know that it is worth it. Its time we dumped the bourgeois party hacks! Put a working class party on the ballot this election. Sign the petition! Get one signed in your department! Ask for a petition and more information at the gate.

Our platform is based on the following demands:

- (1) A Job for Every Worker at the Expense of the Military Budget.
End compulsory overtime; strict adherence to a 35-hour Work Week.
No speed-up. Guaranteed safe and healthy working conditions.
- (2) End All USNA Military Intervention.
- (3) Equal, Quality and Integrated Education for All Children. Nationalize Education. Support Busing.
- (4) Outlaw the KKK, Nazi Party and All Fascist Gangs.
- (5) Nationalize the Energy Industry.
- (6) End All Deportations of Undocumented Workers.
- (7) Recognition, implementation and protection of the rights of women; equal pay for equal work. Free Universal Medical Care.
- (8) Expand the public sector of housing; guarantee decent housing through government financing and public housing.
- (9) Support the right to bear arms; fight against the spread of crime, pornography and dope in our communities.
- (10) Demand the right to organize into unions and to strike. Repeal all anti-labor legislation. End all price hikes and other attacks on the living standard of working people.

FORD TRIBUNE
c/o Communist Labor Party
P.O. Box 783
Linwood Station
Detroit, Mich 48206