

TRUTH

A REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST TROTSKYIST BULLETIN

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Stop Clinton's anti-strike law!

Clinton says that he is going to bring change. And the vast majority of trade union and popular leaders are advising working people to support Clinton.

But what kind of change is Clinton going to bring?

Clinton plans to sign a bill, the "striker replacement" bill, that union leaders say will prevent bosses from replacing striking workers with scabs.

In reality, this bill will force striking workers to accept binding arbitration.

The government will be allowed to appoint a committee that will decide what the workers contract will say, and if the workers refuse to accept the governments' terms, the bosses will be free to replace the striking workers with scabs.

Railroad workers, who have been subjected to binding arbitration for several years, say that the bosses barely even go through the motions of discussing what the contract will be with the union. They just go right to the government and tell the government what they want. And, of course, the government officials give it to them because they are totally owned and controlled by private enterprise.

Workers have to have the right to strike, to picket, to organize solidarity strikes, without any interference from the government. Without these rights, the workers have absolutely no way of defending, much less improving, their wages, benefits, working conditions.

The interests of the workers and the bosses are not the same!

Truth urges all working people and their organizations to make a common fight against this bill! Demand that every union representative take a position against this bill and organize a fight against it!

Trotskyists, and all tendencies in solidarity with Trotsky, should be in the front ranks of this struggle!

Defend the right to strike!
Stop Clinton's anti-strike law! ■

Make war on Clinton and the rich, not Somalia and Iraq!



A Marine kicks a young Somalian throwing rocks at the troops.

Somalians are attacking U.S. troops more and more because more and more the troops are clearly there to run the country. The U.S.-backed dictator, Barre, was driven out of the country at the end of 1991. The U.S. troops are there to re-impose the conditions of his dictatorship. The pretense of "feeding" people has fallen off like a mask, revealing the true reason for the U.S.'s presence: control of a rebellious people so that their rebellion does not spread. In other words, suppressing the right of these people to determine

their own future. (More on Somalia on page 4).

There have been three air attacks on Iraq by U.S./U.N. forces so far in January. The U.S. has dismembered Iraq with its no-fly zones. Just as a human being whose limbs are being cut off will fight, so the Iraqi people will continue to resist this dismemberment. The pretense for the U.S.'s actions has been "protecting" the Shiites in the south and the Kurds in the north. The mask of "protection" has fallen off also. The interests of the rich in controlling the oil in the region are threatened just as much by an independent Kurdish nation and the Shiite movements as by Iraq itself.

Clinton and the rich owners of banks and industry are the real enemies of the working people of the U.S. They are the ones that cause the famine. They are doing similar things here at home. Bush's policies have resulted in thousands of jobs destroyed, a lower standard of living, increased attacks on African-Americans and more money for the greedy rich. Clinton will continue Bush's policies of destroying jobs, lowering wages, and worse. The rich rule the world and they are ruining it. Fight Clinton and the rich, not Iraq and Somalia! ■

Clinton's economic plans will hurt workers

On January 7, Bill Clinton and Al Gore met with the heads of three of the biggest corporations in the U.S., Ford, GM and Chrysler, and the head of the union that represents workers at these companies, the United Auto Workers. On January 8, the heads of the Big Three spoke at their private club in Detroit, the Detroit Economic Club, about Clinton.

Is this good or bad for the workers? Will this save jobs or not?

Clinton's plan of "cooperation" between government, the heads of the companies and the unions will be bad for workers. It will not save a single job in the long run or the short run.

Clinton stated purpose of the meeting was a "fresh start" to avoid "the waste that takes place when government and industry come from a perspective of distrust."

What government is Clinton talking about? Is Clinton saying that the Bush government approached industry with "distrust"? The reason the vast majority of people voted for Clinton is because the rich were getting richer and the poor were getting poorer under Reagan-Bush. In other words, the Reagan-Bush government (with the cooperation of the Democratic Congress) was a government controlled completely by the owners of industry and the banks.

In Arkansas, the Clinton government was the same. The Clinton government in Arkansas was a government completely controlled by the owners of industry and the banks.

Clinton helped business crush a strike by UAW workers in 1990.

The Citizens for Tax Justice reported in 1991 that Arkansas taxed the poorest 20% of its citizens at a rate 67% higher than it taxed the richest 1%. Clinton has been one of the leading supporters of the "right to work" status of Arkansas. He helped two of the biggest and most anti-union companies in the U.S. — WalMart and Tyson Chickens — to build businesses in Arkansas.

Clinton's plans are more dangerous to the workers than Bush's plans because union leaders, African-American leaders are supporting them. Clinton, representing the rich owners, wants you, the workers, to buy into this program of "cooperation"

on your own and through your unions. This is the *essence* of Clinton's plan.

That is why Clinton is the president. That is why the UAW president Bieber was at the meeting. Clinton will attack workers and the workers' standard of living *worse* than Bush did.

Clinton's Plans

- Clinton and the top union leaderships will support NAFTA (the North American Free Trade Agreement). By supporting this agreement Clinton will help the corporations close factories, cut jobs and reduce benefits, in the name of making the U.S. "more competitive." Clinton will help the Big Three further reduce wages of workers in supplier plants through NAFTA.

- Clinton and the union leaderships will support "national health care." Clinton, supporting the profit-hungry health industry, will force higher paid and unionized workers to pay for this "national health care." Either through taxes on their current health care benefits or some other way. And the "national health care" will not cover everyone. Workers on welfare, striking workers, retired workers, etc., will not be covered. Those that are will receive very limited treatment — almost what we have now. Workers who want the health care they have now will pay extraordinary amounts out of their own pockets.

- Clinton and the union leaderships will support the "striker replacement" bill.

Clinton supports this bill now that it has compulsory government arbitration before there is any "protection" from scabs. (see front page article)

- Clinton and the union leaderships will support increased import quotas on Japanese products.

This will greatly increase profits for U.S. corporations, raise prices for goods and increase the possibility of trade and real war by the rich of the U.S.

Millions will fight Clinton's plans

The workers will fight against Clinton's plans sooner or later. The workers will fight against Clinton's plans because they will be driven to defend their interests.

Clinton knows this. That is why Clinton's plans are sold with words meant to cover the true meaning. Words like the auto in-

dustry "is central to our national imperative to create a high-wage, high growth economy," or "national health insurance for all Americans." These are words meant to cover up the true meaning of his proposals, to get workers to think that Clinton has their interests at heart.

But the workers sooner or later will struggle against Clinton's plans and the lies and the deception will not stop them.

Clinton and the rich he works for know that the workers will fight Clinton's plans. That is why they want to pass laws that attack the workers' right to strike, the right to organize, the right to cooperate with workers in other countries. That is why Clinton's plans include more money for police and a more mobile army strike force.

Prepare by opposing plans now

The most conscious workers should begin the fight now, openly and clearly, against Clinton's plans. This is the best way to prepare for the time when millions of workers will be fighting.

- The workers must demand the rejection of NAFTA;

- The workers must demand national health care that raises the level of health care of all Americans to at least the level of the strongest unionized workers, that is, the UAW, paid for by reducing payments on the debt to the banks;

- The workers must defeat the anti-scab bill in its present form and demand an anti-scab bill that prevents corporations from hiring scabs while workers are on strike, with no concessions from the workers;

- The workers must oppose the unions fighting for import quotas on Japanese products.

In other words, the workers must demand that the top leadership of the union pull out of these plans and oppose them.

The workers must also continue to build Labor Party Advocates and arrive at a convention to start a labor party; the workers must prepare themselves to fight for the demands by any means necessary, including a national strike of all workers.

This is the best way to prepare the workers for victories. — Jack Marlowe ■

Workers have the power to stop GM layoffs!

In early December, the owners and top managers of General Motors Corporation (GM) announced more layoffs and plant-closings, including workers, specialists and managers.

These layoffs and plant-closings are going to hurt thousands of working class and middle class people, their families, friends, neighbors. They are also going to hurt the development and expansion of the auto industry and the economy as a whole. Thousands of workers, specialists, managers, machines and materials will be idle and disorganized.

The only people that these layoffs and plant-closings are going to benefit are the tiny number of owners and top managers of GM and other giant enterprises, interested only in their own short-term profits, not in the long-term interests of the working class, the people, or the development of the economy as a whole.

So far, the top UAW leadership has done nothing but agreed to a few small, isolated strikes and attempted to negotiate certain short-term benefits for workers who are laid-off.

The UAW's contract with GM, Ford, and Chrysler expires in September of this year. The UAW and other unions can take advantage of this situation by mobilizing workers and citizens around a national strike: to demand an end to all layoffs and plant-closings now; to demand that all work be divided among all available to work without cutting pay.

Workers, specialists, low and mid-level managers and their families should not be forced to pay for the economic crisis. Cut executive bonuses, salaries, pensions, dividends to the wealthiest stockholders, interest payments to the rich bankers, not workers' jobs!

Workers and other people should insist that the UAW and other unions organize a national strike that involves sit-down strikes, plant occupations, mass picketing, mass defense guards, family, youth and community support groups and actions.

If the rich owners and top managers of GM continue to refuse the just and legitimate demands of the workers and the people as a whole, the workers can fight to nationalize GM, to turn it into a public utility, run by workers in the interests of the people.

The interests of the workers, and the op-



pressed population as a whole, must come before the interests of the tiny class of rich owners.

Naturally, many workers are reluctant to take a public stand in favor of a national strike against GM owners and their policies. They are concerned that they will

The federal deficit: Make the rich pay, not the workers!

Recent articles point to an even larger federal deficit. Clinton is now claiming he can't fulfill his campaign promise to reduce it by 1/2.

The federal deficit — the amount of money the federal government owes to the biggest banks in the U.S. — is currently about \$1.2 trillion or about \$5,000 per person.

This deficit was not created by the vast majority of Americans acquiring services. The deficit was created by the Reagan-Bush-Democratic Congress government giving public money to the rich owners of the banks and corporations.

First, they gave it directly, through payments on the debt; through purchases of military equipment and hardware for the armed forces, and many of these at inflated prices; through subsidies to agribusiness not to grow food, special tobacco subsidies, and so on.

Second, they gave it indirectly, through Medicare, Medicaid, Aid to Dependent Children, Food Stamps and other programs that make payments to for-profit institutions like hospitals, medical clinics, supermarkets and so on. These payments contribute largely to the exorbitant profits of these institutions.

Finally, the rich created the deficit by spending money on a military used exclusively to defend the interests of the rich. The rich waged the Gulf War to

be persecuted by the company and their lackeys inside the union, and that they will eventually be fired. And they are right.

But workers can write material in favor of such a fight, and distribute it as widely as possible. The more widespread this material, the more it will nourish sentiments that already exist in favor of such a fight. And the more sentiment grows in favor of an all-out fight, the more difficult it will be to stop it.

The workers have the power to stop GM layoffs!

Use it!

For a national strike to stop all layoffs and plant-closings now! ■

defend oil interests. The rich gave billions to dictators and military governments that help U.S. industry keep people oppressed, such as the shah of Iran, overthrown in 1979, and the dictator Somoza, also deposed in 1979, and the dictator Barre in Somalia, overthrown in 1991.

So why are the big business newspapers filled with talk of the deficit?

The problem for the rich owners is that the size of the deficit is so large that it hurts their plans to keep making payments to themselves. They are trying to get the majority of people to support cutting some of the few social programs still left in the federal budget. They want to reduce Medicare/Medicaid, Social Security (which the government only administers and does not contribute a dime to), and grants to students and so on. They want support for more taxes on poor and working people.

Many of the programs the rich want to cut have helped workers. From the point of view of the workers, this was and is money well spent.

The question is to stop the welfare for the rich — stop public money going into private hands. Let the rich owners of the big banks, big agri-business, big industry, make money like everybody else — by working. Cut the subsidies to the rich, not programs for workers and poor people! — J.M. ■

U.S. out of Somalia!

The Somalian people have begun to protest the presence of U.S. troops through demonstrations, rock-throwing and attacks on the soldiers. The Somalians resent the U.S. troops taking the guns away from them, and imposing the U.S.'s terms in their country.

They are right.

The U.S. government has no right in Somalia. They were not invited there by any one. Workers, all democratic-minded people, should demand U.S. out of Somalia.

But what about the starving people?

There are hundreds of millions of people that are hungry, starving in the world. In nearly every country of Asia, South and Central America, Africa as well as parts of the ex-USSR and Eastern Europe, people are starving.

If workers are to take seriously the problem of starving people in Somalia, there must be some understanding of why these people do not have food.

This part of the world, called the Horn of Africa, has been inhabited for nearly 2 million years. In the course of that time, the peoples there developed a way of life. Up until about 150 years ago, they had a self-sufficient economy that consisted of nomadic life and simple agriculture. Without trade with the big Western nations, they did not have many machines, but they did have a functioning pre-capitalist economy. This economy was destroyed.

In its place was put a different economy, which consumed cheap western goods — clothes, pots and pans, machine-made plows and so on. To pay for these goods, the people were forced to make that which they could sell, not that which they could use. Their economy was transformed from a simple self-sufficient economy, to a raw-material producing economy — bananas and livestock — working for the big capitalist countries. This fate the Somalians share with nearly all the countries of the world.

But imposing such an economy on the Somalian people required force. Thus, the French, Italians and British occupied the area with troops for over 100 years. The people made a first step in reaching freedom from the colonial powers by establishing Somalia in 1960. This was

progress, even though their economy remained one that served the imperialist interests. The people could see this even clearer with the foreign troops gone. This is many organizations with socialist and revolutionary names were formed.

The imperialists had drawn the boundaries of the countries of the area according to their needs, not according to the needs and national desires of the people. Thus, the Somalian people, which consists of several clans, exist in three separate ex-colonies — Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya. After 1960, there were continual skirmishes and wars with the colonies that remained around Somalia, as the peoples of the region fought to define their own nations free from Western domination.

In early 1969, after elections showed that the Somalia created by the imperialists would soon burst apart, the U.S. imposed a military dictator on the country, Barre. He pilfered much of the wealth of the country. Or more exactly, as the U.S. extracted wealth from the country, they cut Barre and his henchmen in for a piece of the action. He was driven out of the country in 1991.

Finally, the U.S. can be blamed directly for the recent wave of starvation. In 1974-75, a dictatorship was overthrown in Ethiopia by a upsurge of the people. The U.S. used Somalia to try to crush this uprising. Hundreds of thousands of people had to flee the fighting. Many were nomadic peoples driven from their homeland. Others were farmers who could not plant during the war. Wars and attacks by Barre on people against his dictatorship continued throughout the years, always with the same results — displaced peoples unable to survive outside their homeland, farmers unable to plant. This is what has led to the starvation.

In summary, changing the Somalian economy from self-sufficient to serving the big nations, and the suppressing the right of the peoples to determine their own future, these are the underlying causes for the starvation.

If there is no central government replacing that of Barre, it is not surprising. It is not at all clear that the "people" of Somalia even desire such a government. Some of the "warlords" are simply clan leaders who represent the desires of these peoples

to control their own fate. Others, in Mogadishu, such as Aidad and Mahdi, both occupied high positions in the Barre government. They have been on good terms with the U.S. for some time.

The only way the people of Somalia can determine what nation to constitute and what kind of economy they want, is for the U.S. to get out.

It is in the best interest of workers in the United States to demand the end to U.S. intervention in Somalia. — J.M. ■

Trotskyists in the Class Struggle

We are starting this column for our readers, Trotskyists in the Class Struggle, to show the increasingly important role that Trotskyists are playing in the class struggle. Our tendency, the International League for the Rebuilding of the Fourth International, is convinced that the Fourth International, the international party of socialist revolution started by Trotskyists, exists and fights. We are convinced that Trotskyists who fight for the program of the Fourth International should unify into a single organization.

The Fourth International exists and fights under several different groupings, nationally and internationally, that may not agree on everything, act together or speak with one voice, but these groupings are the living force that is the Fourth International, the continuity of the struggle for the liberation of the working class from capitalism and Stalinism. We ask our readers to send us any information on the role of Trotskyists in the class struggle. — Editor

The January issue of *Socialist Action* has three articles condemning the U.S. action in Somalia. The lead article says, "It is essential that anti-imperialists, humanitarians and democrats demand the withdrawal of foreign military forces from Somalia and that famine relief and development aid by channelled through the nongovernmental organizations." Another article gives some of the history of the oppression of Somalia by the big capitalist countries. A third entitled "Somalia' agony: World capitalism's bitter fruit," states, "The crisis in Somalia contributes further to the growing body of evidence that this is but another preview of all humanity's dismal future under capitalism." *Socialist Action* also has reprinted two speeches given by Lynn Henderson at the LPA Conference. Lynn Henderson is a Trotskyist and editor of a railroad workers' opposition paper, *Straight Track*. In the first speech Henderson details the governmental efforts against the railroad workers. In the second, he states his support to

Trotskyists, continued from page 4

LPA, outlines how he sees a labor party develop in the U.S., and raises criticisms of LPA as well.

The January issue of *The Organizer*, published by Socialist Organizer, has a lead article opposing the U.S. intervention in Somalia with lots of background information. It states, "U.S. and other foreign troops are in Somalia not to feed the hungry but to refurbish the very social order which created mass starvation. They must be removed." *The Organizer* also has an article supportive of the Labor Party Advocates Meeting in Detroit in December. It states, "The December 5-6 LPA Conference marked a first moment in the discussion about the New Party. It represented an important step in the fight for a labor party in this country. It showed that the potential for building a real organizing committee for a labor party exists among the ranks of labor. The political discussion over perspectives will not end here. It has just begun." *The Organizer* also reprints a speech by Millie Phillips, a Trotskyist, president of the San Francisco chapter of CLUW and one of the speakers at the LPA conference. There is also a two-page spread on the dangers of the so-called "striker replacement" bill being pushed by Clinton.

Spark, will hold its monthly forum on January 24, 5 p.m. at Pullman Hall, Cass and Forest in Detroit. The topic is Somalia: victim of capitalist greed. As the flyer states, "Today, Bush says the U.S. is going on a humanitarian mission to Somalia. As though the criminal would ever help his victim!" The January 11-25 issue of *Spark*, has an article on the strike of Polish coal miners stating, "The miners and rail workers are right to fight. They certainly have a tradition to they can call on. It was their organized strength which forced the so-called 'communist' government to back down in 1971 and 1976; it was their massive force which built Solidarity in 1980; it was their force which eventually forced that old discredited regime to disappear."

The January 22 issue of *The Militant*, published by the Socialist Workers Party, contains articles against the U.S. action in Somalia and the continuing attacks on Iraq. Its editorial states: "Washington's intervention in Somalia is not really about feeding hungry Somalis. The solution to the devastation that capitalism wreaks on Somalia and other countries in Africa is not imperialist 'aid.' The only way forward is the political mobilization of the workers and peasants, whose interests lie in creating a government that can break with imperialist domination and begin to advance

Truth is 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 Committee of Detroit is associated with one of the international tendencies of the Fourth International, the International League for the Reconstruction of the Fourth International. Editor: M. Guttshall

Unity

The following is the editorial from the October issue of The Fourth International, of the International League for the rebuilding of the Fourth International, the international tendency that Truth supports.

The progressive political evolution of the militants and tendencies of Trotskyism is a true reflection of the attempts of a sector of the vanguard to raise and respond to the big historic tasks that are pending.

The necessity of a workers party, with a Marxist program and principles, in its national and international forms, is a critical point of many balance sheets and perspectives.

It is a question of concentrating on raising the level of socialist consciousness of the workers and of progressing in a new political direction. The Marxist program, summed up in the Transitional Program of the Fourth International, is the tool for training revolutionary cadres of the workers party.

The struggle for socialist propaganda among the workers, crystallizes the process of the maturation and realignment among the Trotskyists.

The platforms of its different tendencies are being tested. Trotskyism progresses in each new struggle. In important social and political conflicts the struggle against the most petty bourgeois sectors becomes more refined and militants again take up the Program in order to guide their action,

Trotskyists, continued from last column society." There is also an article on the capitalist crisis that causes overproduction of food at the same time that it causes starvation. "The only real solution to the problems facing farmers and the crime of hunger in the midst of plenty is for a government of workers and farmers to wrest control of these resources out of the hands of the capitalist monopolies and take the profit motive out of food production."

Correo Internacional is the international journal of the International Workers League, whose largest organization is the MAS in Argentina. In the September issue, there are articles expressing the successful struggle of the

their thoughts, their balance sheets, and perspectives.

But each tendency, on its own, separated, making progress, is shown to be, each time, more difficult. In countries where Trotskyism is being reborn, in Russia or in Poland, the necessity of unifying all its forces and militant cadres in a single party organization is more striking.

The division of the tendencies of Trotskyism has become a heavy weight from a previous period and the consciousness of the need to overcome it is progressing.

The absence of a broad party framework is the cause of still more new and virulent divisions.

The tendencies as we have known them until today cannot progress if they persist in maintaining the divisions among the Trotskyists. Their crisis is obvious. The new blows of the struggle will oblige them to evolve and seriously raise the reconstruction of the Fourth International, that is, an organic framework of unity beginning from a Marxist program.

The different experiences, of the national nuclei or leaderships, still valuable for the struggle, are not sufficient for absorbing old differences, and they make necessary decisive and responsible steps on an international level.

With the Open Letter for organic party unity, the International League proposes effective and concrete steps to begin to resolve this decisive task. ■

Brazilian workers to bring down Collor. In particular, it shows how the Trotskyists played a decisive role in raising this struggle in the Workers Party of Brazil, and assisting the workers in forcing the Workers Party to take up the fight to bring down Collor. There is a declaration of the IWL expressing solidarity with the Bosnian people and their struggle for self-determination against the Serbian army. There is an article supporting the struggle of the European workers against the Maastricht Accord. There is also an article on the presidential elections in the U.S. which not only condemns support to Clinton as a "lesser evil," but also supports the formation of Labor Party Advocates. ■

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Labor Party Advocates: a school of working class struggle

Labor Party Advocates held an educational conference in Detroit on December 5 and 6. Nearly 250 people attended, including union officials, union activists, workers and members of their families, and socialists and communists from many different tendencies.

This conference was very interesting and worthwhile, something from which any worker could get information, education, and inspiration, to help the workers and their families in their struggle for a better life.

James Gibbs, President of the United Mine Workers Local 2590 and a working miner at the Pittston Company, talked about how the workers organized the strike against the Pittston company, how they organized mass picketing, how everyone in the miners' families and the community as a whole were involved in the strike, how the miners' children even organized a walk-out in their schools in solidarity with the strike.

He also talked about how the miners decided to run their own candidate for local office. They didn't want to vote for the Republican or the Democratic Party candidate; the Democratic Party candidate was the son of a judge who had issued an injunction against the miners, trying to stop them from picketing and break their strike.

So the miners decided to put up their own candidate at the last minute. They made up pencils with a camouflage pattern on them that looked like the camouflage uniforms that the striking miners wore, and they had the name of their candidate, Jackie Stump, printed on the pencil. They went door-to-door in the mining districts and asked miners, their families and their supporters to write-in the name of the miners' candidate for office. In some cases, James Gibbs said, they even had to teach the people how to write-in the name, as they didn't know how to write. But that's what they did, and their candidate won.

Elaine Bernard, former president of the Canadian New Democratic Party in British Columbia, a labor party, talked about the telephone operators' strike in British Columbia. She said the weakness of the telephone operators forced them to find new tactics to win their strikes. She

said it had been very difficult to make gains because when the telephone operators went on strike, management ran the phone service. So she says operators decided to "sit-in" and "lock-out" management. Telephone operators explained to the people in British Columbia that management was wrecking the phone service, forcing the workers to work in difficult conditions, for inadequate wages, so they decided to "lock-out" management. In this way, telephone operators in British Columbia were able to make some gains.

She also talked about how the labor party in Canada tried to make gains for all working people, union and non-union, so that there would be more solidarity and strength among working people.

Dave Riehle, Chair of the United Transportation Union Local 650 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, talked about the long history of the struggle for a labor party in the U.S. He argued that there is a deep tradition of political independence on the part of American working people and talked about the experience of the Farmer-Labor Party in Minneapolis. He said the more the labor party movement grows, the more workers look into their past, the more they will find labor heroes, like the African-American people have found Malcolm X.

Lynn Henderson, a railroad worker, warned everyone not to trust Clinton. He said that the things that he is allegedly going to do to help the people — like sign the so-called "striker replacement bill" — are really going to hurt the people. The so-called "striker replacement bill" calls for unions to accept whatever contract a government committee dictates; if they don't, employers can legally fire them and replace them with scabs.

Speaker after speaker — especially, but not exclusively, Trotskyists — argued that the labor movement needs to totally break with the Democratic Party now, build a labor party, and run its own candidates for office. Those of us who publish Truth concentrated on urging those who attended to join Labor Party Advocates and to get actively involved in recruiting others to Labor Party Advocates and in building recruiting committees.

Not everyone agreed with this approach.

Some thought the labor movement should continue to support the Democratic Party at least to a certain extent. Others thought people should join the "New Party," which is not a party owned and controlled by working people, but a radical version of the Democratic Party.

This is not surprising. Working people have lots of different political views — conservative, liberal, radical, trade unionist, socialist, communist, etc. This is why Labor Party Advocates is such an important step forward. It is open to ALL working people for a labor party based on the unions, no matter what their political views may be. It provides a framework in which workers can learn, discuss what they think, see where they agree, where they disagree, at the same time that they work together to build a BIG workers party.

The bigger the workers party, the more the workers will gain confidence in themselves. The more the workers gain confidence in themselves, the more they will see that they don't have to accept society as it is today. They can build a workers democracy, a socialist society, in which everyone is part of the working class. Where everyone works together to produce and distribute what people need, where there is no suffering, no want, and no privileged elite.

The more Labor Party Advocates grows, the more workers will have an opportunity to seriously consider this.

The Labor Party Advocates educational conference was just a small example of the tremendous knowledge, experience, and fighting spirit embodied in the working classes in U.S. and Canada.

We urge every worker who wants to learn how to fight and how to win, who wants the labor movement to build its own party, to join Labor Party Advocates.

We especially urge socialist and communist workers to join Labor Party Advocates. Every worker who has ever worked alongside a socialist or communist worker in factory, knows that socialist and communist workers, with few exceptions, are totally devoted to the working class and active in almost every struggle. There is a lot that can be learned from them, but not if they are standing on the sidelines. — M. Guttshall ■