

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING No. 46, September 23, 1976

Present: Barnes, Blackstock, Berman, Garza, Horowitz, D. Jenness, L. Jenness, Jones, Lovell, Lund, Lyons, Miah, Seigle, Sheppard, Stapleton, Thomas, Waters

Guests: Benson, Dixon, Rodríguez

Chair: D. Jenness

AGENDA: 1. World Movement  
2. Groupe Marxiste Révolutionnaire Convention  
3. Militant Subscription Drive  
4. Denver  
5. Membership  
6. Mexico  
7. Detroit Critical Support  
8. Boston

1. WORLD MOVEMENT

Barnes reported. Secretariat proposal is that Benson be invited to attend all P.C. meetings that he is in town for.

Discussion

Motion: To approve the report.

Carried.

2. GROUPE MARXISTE REVOLUTIONNAIRE CONVENTION

Waters proposed that Thomas and Benson be the Political Committee representatives to the convention of the Groupe Marxiste Révolutionnaire in Montreal September 24-26.

Discussion

Motion: To approve the proposal.

Carried.

3. MILITANT SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE  
(McArthur invited for this point)

McArthur reported on progress in the first week of the drive and the scoreboard that will be in the October 1 issue of the Militant.

Discussion

Motion: To approve the report.

Carried.

4. DENVER

Lyons reported on developments in Denver.

Discussion

Motion: To approve the report.

Carried.

5. MEMBERSHIP

Waters reported on recommendation of the Chicago Near North branch to readmit M.L. to membership. (See attached letter.)

Discussion

Motion: To concur with recommendation of Chicago Near North branch.

Carried.

6. MEXICO

Rodríguez reported on the unification congress of the Liga Comunista Internacionalista and the Liga Socialista (Tendencia Militante) to form the Partido Revolucionario de los Trabajadores, and the educational conference of the Liga Socialista (Fracción Bolchevique Leninista). (See attached greetings presented by Shaw for the SWP Political Committee to the founding congress of the PRT.)

Discussion

Motion: To approve the report.

Carried.

7. DETROIT CRITICAL SUPPORT

Seigle reported on proposal by the Detroit local to give critical support to the Communist Labor Party campaign of General Baker. (See attached material.)

Discussion

Motion: To concur with recommendation of the

Detroit local to give critical support to the CLP  
campaign of General Baker.

Carried.

8. BOSTON

Dixon reported on the situation in Boston since the  
reopening of schools and NSCAR's perspectives. (See  
attached letter by Nan Bailey.)

Discussion

Motion: To approve the report.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned.

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Near North Branch  
Chicago Local SWP  
622 Diversy Rm. 404A  
Chicago, IL 60657  
Sept. 11, 1976

Political Committee  
SWP N.O.  
New York

Dear Comrades,

On Sept. 7, 1976, the Near North branch, Chicago voted unanimously to recommend to the P.C. the readmission of M. L. to membership in the SWP. As a provisional member he actively participated in the branch which included petitioning, summer school, sales and finances. He recently accepted the assignment of forum director. Mark collaborated with the branch before becoming a provisional member. He has functioned loyally and he says he wants to continue to build the SWP as a member. If the P.C. has any questions please contact me.

Comradely,

/s/Bruce Scheff  
(branch organizer)

cc: Joel Britton  
& branch file

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GREETINGS TO THE UNIFICATION CONGRESS  
OF THE LIGA COMUNISTA INTERNACIONALISTA  
AND THE LIGA SOCIALISTA (TENDENCIA MILITANTE)

Mexico  
September 18, 1976

In the name of the Political Committee of the Socialist Workers Party I bring our greetings to this unification congress of the Liga Comunista Internacionalista and the Liga Socialista (Tendencia Militante).

The successful unification of all the Trotskyist forces in Mexico into one single organization of the Fourth International is our common goal. It is our sincere desire that this congress will lay the basis for a giant step in that direction: a step forward in building the revolutionary mass proletarian party in Mexico.

However, it would be unserious on our part should we fail to remind ourselves that successful unifications are difficult to achieve and require political agreement of a profound and enduring nature as the basis for a program of action and participation in the class struggle.

The two groups that will unify at this congress are convinced that unity in revolutionary theory and practice is guaranteed and that debilitating factional divisions leading to new splits is not an immediate danger. It is our sincere hope that the test of practice will prove them correct. The united organization can count on the full, sincere, and fraternal collaboration of the SWP in its efforts.

The fact that the remaining group of the Fourth International, the Liga Socialista (Fracción Bolchevique Leninista) is not included in this reunification does not make us pessimistic about the future. The LS (FBL) believes that its present political differences with the unifying groups precludes a principled and enduring fusion at this moment without further political clarification and common action.

But all groups involved have made it clear that they are anxious to maintain a frank and open discussion with a view to a principled unification as soon as possible. We support this attitude and this goal.

Long Live the Mexican Section of the Fourth International!

Long Live the Fourth International!

Long Live the World Socialist Revolution!

Ed Shaw

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19 Clifford #805  
Detroit, Mi. 48226  
September 18, 1976

Political Committee  
New York

Dear Comrades,

At our September 12 convention the Detroit local voted to recommend to the Political Committee that we extend critical support to the campaign of General Baker Jr. for Michigan State House of Representatives in the 9th district. Baker is the candidate of the Communist Labor party.

We feel that critical support of the Baker campaign can be a useful tool in carrying out opponents work with the CLP in the election period. The CLP in Detroit emerged from a fusion of the Black Workers Congress and the Motor City Labor League, both Maoist formations. At their inception they had 200 members or so according to comrades who were around at the time, and they have continued to grow. Although their sectarian rhetoric and their position on the Black nationality in the U.S. put them a bit way out, they have been active here and elsewhere in the school desegregation fight and the NAACP as well as other struggles for social progress (they were involved in the ERA group here), and their influence has grown accordingly.

A key factor in our proposing that we extend critical support to the Baker campaign is the fact that this is seen as a serious campaign by their membership and their periphery. They have opened a store-front campaign headquarters in Highland Park, a small city enclosed within Detroit, and have printed posters that are visibly up and have purchased a bill board.

The seriousness with which they view the campaign is reflected also in their choice of a candidate. Baker is well known as an activist in the Black and labor movements. The reputation he enjoys goes back to the days of the League of Revolutionary Black Workers. The fact that Baker is also a national officer of the CLP indicates the seriousness with which the campaign will be viewed in the ranks of the CLP.

What do we stand to gain by such a maneuver? By adopting a position of critical support in relation to the Baker campaign we will be in a good position to carry out an effort to open a discussion with the CLP ranks and their periphery. We would want to discuss the CLP's solutions (or lack thereof) to the problems confronting the working class today and compare them to those offered by the SWP. We would want also to discuss the question of independent working class political action and the necessity of their supporting the SWP slate in the absence of a CLP slate of candidates outside the 9th district.

We feel that we could do this in a number of ways. Our candidates could issue a letter to Baker urging his support of the SWP candidates and expressing our support of his campaign and our criticisms of his program. This could be made public as a leaflet to be used throughout the campaign. We would also want to attend CLP campaign gatherings and engage Baker's campaign supporters in discussions. It is possible that an article in the Militant would be appropriate as well. In any case we want to approach this thing as a little bit more than a formality, seeing it as a tool to go after the CLP membership and periphery and win some away.

Comradely,

s/John Hawkins

P.S.- One thing that needs to be pointed out explicitly: in our opinion this campaign will have a good deal of attractive power among a layer of Black radicals and radicalizing Black youth in Highland Park and elsewhere in Detroit. These are some people that we wish to reach and keep out of the clutches of the CLP. In addition it should be noted that the CLP is predominantly Black, with a good deal of their membership this side of being hardened Stalinists.

Enclosed is some of their campaign literature. Looking over it again one thing deserves to be pointed out--their emphasis on electing Baker. This is not just a formulation designed to pitch his campaign to the level of mass consciousness around elections, but is their basic approach to the campaign and their perspective according to comrades familiar with the CLP. They are telling their membership and periphery that they can win in November. This will undoubtedly be a subject of discussion among them and will give us a handle to explain exactly how revolutionary socialists approach election campaigns. They had also predicted victory for the CLP on August 3 (the Michigan "minor party" primary) and to that end spent \$40,000. They received little over 400 votes. This is now being explained away to their membership as a "victory" of the sort originally predicted.

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14 Charles Lane  
New York, N.Y. 10014  
September 27, 1976

John Hawkins

Detroit

Dear John,

At its meeting on September 23, the Political Committee concurred with your recommendation to extend critical support to General Baker, the Communist Labor Party candidate for state representative in the 9th district.

We think the proposal is a good one. The local has thought out how to use this tactic in these particular circumstances, and has a clear objective in mind--to help break down the barriers between us and the activists who are in and around the CLP and the Baker campaign.

We were glad to see that the local is taking the same kind of aggressive attitude and initiatives toward the Baker campaign that you have been displaying in other work, such as with Spark and the Revolutionary Marxist Committee.

It is clear that the CLP in Detroit is a major opponent. We are competing with them for the allegiance of young activists. The critical support tactic can be a useful component of a systematic and continuing policy of opponents work with regard to the CLP.

Malik and Maceo gave the PC a report on the evolution of the CLP--and the gradual change in the attitude of some of their ranks to us. This makes the possibility of success in this move realistic.

The tactic can be especially valuable for us in this election because the CLP has chosen to run only one candidate for a minor post, while we have candidates in the field for Congress, for president and vice-president, and other offices. The CLP quite consciously avoids taking a position on such questions as whether or not it's all right to vote for a John Conyers for Congress (and, like other "progressives," praise Ronald Dellums). Our candidate, B.R. Washington, who is running against Conyers, will have a lot to say to supporters of the General Baker campaign about who they should support in the congressional race as well as in the presidential campaign. B.R.'s calling for a vote for Baker can open the minds of many of these people to hear what we have to say.

Along these lines, it will be important to think out carefully the type of leaflet or statement we want to distribute to announce our position of urging a vote for Baker. We think it would be a mistake to think we have to detail our criticisms of the Baker platform



and campaign in the leaflet we distribute urging a vote for Baker.

We can learn a negative lesson from the sects, who on occasion will pass out a leaflet urging a vote for one of our candidates, but take up 90% of their space with a denunciation of our party and our program. If the goal is to open people's minds, this kind of an approach is self-defeating.

It would be better, in the leaflet, to stress the positive reasons we urge a vote for Baker--it's a way to vote against the Democratic and Republican policy of opposition to busing, a way to vote against the bipartisan attacks on our living standards, etc., etc.

We can raise our criticisms of the CLP--in the proper proportions--in such formats as a joint forum where both B.R. and Baker might speak, as well as in conversations with Baker campaign supporters, Militant articles, and so on.

Of course, the best way of expressing what we are for, including our concrete programmatic ideas, will be through our own campaign and our own candidates.

Comradely,

*Larry Seigle*  
BR

Larry Seigle  
for the Political Committee

# INTERNAL DISCUSSION BULLETIN

# SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

SEP 10 1976

## DETROIT LOCAL

Volume 1, No. 1

September 1976

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**WHY WE SHOULD NOT EXTEND CRITICAL SUPPORT TO THE CAMPAIGN  
OF THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY**

Submitted for preconvention discussion to the Detroit  
Local by Ron Jameson, West Side Branch.

The Communist Labor Party is running General Baker  
for the Michigan House of Representatives in the 9th  
Congressional District.

There are two reasons why our party might consider  
extending critical support to this campaign. 1) If  
we saw it as a step towards independent working class  
politics we could support it as a maneuver. By supporting  
their candidate we would raise the question among their  
ranks and supporters of supporting our candidates and  
especially Camejo-Reid campaign. While we can be sure  
that their party will not support our campaign--they  
consider us revisionists and police agents--it would  
expose the sectarianism of their leadership. It would  
also be an example of how class solidarity can include  
supporting candidates of other working class parties  
whose campaign works towards independence from the  
capitalists while still criticizing their program.

2) We might support the CLP campaign because it  
has been impressive. Their posters, leaflets, and  
rallies have made a mark on the city. They have won  
many supporters and run a professional and well financed  
campaign. We and other revolutionaries are feeling the  
pressure of this fact.

I feel that while everyone agrees that it is the  
first consideration that counts--it is the second which  
is making the impression on our thinking.

At first I thought this way too. Their campaign  
literature and paid advertisements seem to be everywhere.  
I have read their paper and heard about their rallies. Most  
importantly I have seen many of my friends become involved  
in and inspired by their campaign.

A CLP spokesperson reported that over 200 people  
worked on their campaign for the August 3 primary, and  
they spent \$40,000. The figures are undoubtedly high.  
We know that they can lie and delude themselves,  
but compared to what we have done this has got to make  
an impression all around and including on ourselves.

This shows that we can be sensitive to successful  
campaign techniques in the radical movement.

A copy of the CLP program is attached to this  
article. It has good points, bad points, and stupid  
points. They call for an end to anti-labor legislation,  
nationalizing the energy industry (but not workers  
control), equal rights for women, free universal medical  
care, etc. On the other hand they want the state to  
stop the spread of crime, outlaw rightwing groups,  
nationalize education, etc. Most curiously they call for

integrated education but not the right of the Black community to control its own schools, equal rights for women but not support for the ERA, a 35 hour work week but not the traditional 30 for 40. No where do they talk about the struggles of the working people, the need for working people to organize to fight for their needs and against the capitalist government, or the need for political independence from the capitalist parties.

Taking the program as a whole it is reformist. They call for little more than the mildest of reforms. While they call themselves "Communist," they do not mention socialism. Franklin Roosevelt would have little trouble dealing with their demands.

Why is this? They want to get elected to office. That is what counts for them in this election. They have come up with what they consider a reasonable set of demands, present them in mild terms, and think that people will vote for them. Especially in Highland Park. That is why they picked General Baker as their candidate and are running for State House in Highland Park.

There is nothing wrong with revolutionaries trying to win an election. But if you run a campaign on a reformist program and your goal is not to educate and organize the working class but simply to get elected, that is opportunism.

Look at the August 3 primary. They thought that they could win. They ran a campaign expecting to get 4,000 votes and qualifying for the ballot. They got less than 450 votes. They were so opportunist they had to believe that they were going to win, or there would have been little other sense to their campaign.

The election was a big disappointment to them. They expected a victory and got a defeat. We did not operate this way, and therefore the results did not have the same impact on us.

The CLP is a classic example of what is called "Third Period Stalinism." They run on a reformist program and an opportunist campaign. At the same time they are sectarians and at times ultra-leftist. Under some conditions we could give critical support to a working class party with even this orientation. Is this the time?

I can think of one very likely situation and it is worth analyzing because it gives a clue to the kind of support the CLP gets from leftists.

If there were a serious threat of fascism coming to power, it could make sense to support the CLP as a working class party. This is why their leaders inculcate the members with the fear of fascism. It disorients them, and allows them to accept an obviously reformist and opportunist approach.

By giving critical support to their campaign we would be opening ourselves to the same mistake. Rather

only be playing to their misunderstanding.

Finally, the CLP is made up of middle class elements like lawyers and free lance radicals left over from the 60's, college teachers and social workers who are open to considerable petty bourgeois pressure, and workers. Their composition is not homogeneous. The relative weight of the working class elements is not that great. They are a Stalinist party but not the Stalinist party which we recognize as part of the working class movement because of its special relationship with the Soviet Union.

In my opinion, the CLP is a centrist party on an opportunist course. Its greatest strength lies in bluffing and bullying its supporters most of whom have never been involved in a revolutionary party or socialist election campaign.

Rather than giving critical support to the CLP campaign I think we should set as our goal educating its militants.

We should press for debates and common speaking engagements with them. We should take our campaign to their supporters and put them on the spot in regard to the presidential election. We should present our ideas and our alternative to the parties of capitalist rule. We should direct some of our propaganda directly at their periphery. In particular we should direct ourselves to questions facing teachers and public employees, women and oppressed minorities, etc. In short, we should show them how revolutionaries use an election campaign to educate and involve the working people in struggles to fight for their own needs independent of the capitalists.

If we do this we can teach some of their supporters a lesson in revolutionary politics and what a revolutionary party really stands for. A measure of our success will be the education of their followers and recruitment from their periphery.

August 27, 1976

**Give the Working Class of this Country a Real Voice in Government . . .  
Back the Struggle for Jobs, Peace and Equality . . .**



**VOTE**

- **Communist Labor Party**
- **August 3<sup>rd</sup> 1976**

**WHY SHOULD WE KEEP THE CLP ON THE BALLOT?** Because the working class must use every avenue available to fight for the demands listed in our program. There has never been a party that represents the true interests of the working class in this country. A party that struggles at every turn against the attacks from the capitalists aimed at our living and working conditions and at the same time leads the fight for socialism, for a society in which the factories, mines, mills, farms and government are owned and controlled by the working class.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP GET OUT THE VOTE FOR YOUR PARTY ON AUGUST 3RD!**

**WHY MUST WE VOTE AUGUST 3RD?** In January, 1976, the law said the Communist Labor Party had to get 17,500 signatures to get on the ballot and run candidates in November 1976. In March and April, 33,500 people signed petitions to put the Communist Labor Party on the ballot. Recognizing the growing strength of the working class movement, the state legislators changed the rules and passed a new law. In order to get the Party on the ballot in November, the Party now must get 6,000 votes on August 3. This is the first time in the history of this country that a Party was required to get votes in a primary before it would be allowed to run candidates. The working class movement is growing in strength and 33,500 signatures in 8 weeks is a great victory. Neither the Democratic nor the Republican Parties (the parties of Ford, Reagan, and Carter) have a viable program for us. Each year less and less citizens bother to vote for these capitalist parties. A communist vote is a vote for jobs and against war. That is why the state legislators created a new barrier for the Communist Labor Party, attempting to exclude us from the ballot. Don't allow the government to deny the working class a voice in Lansing.

**BITE THE BULLET - VOTE TO PUT THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY ON THE BALLOT ON AUG. 3rd!**

# WHAT IS THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY?

The Communist Labor Party of the United States of North America was founded over the Labor Day weekend in 1974. Its membership consists of active leaders in the struggle of the working class dating back to the 1920's. The CLP is not like the Democratic and Republican parties that promise you all sorts of things, but deliver the country to their masters, the Wall Street financiers and the large corporate manufacturers.

The CLP fights for the interest of the working class in the factories, mines and mills, in neighborhoods, schools and unions. We see an immediate need to organize against the growing fascist influence in this country, influence that pushes us closer to war on the international front while creating divisiveness, impoverishment and extra-legal terror at home through such means as the S-1 Bill, the KKK and the Nazi Party, and anti-labor legislation. The struggle against this fascist drive brings us on step closer in our fight for socialism.

## 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.
- (8) Expand the public sector of housing; guarantee decent housing through government financing and public housing
- (9) Support the right to bear arms.
- (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
- (11) Free Universal Medical Care, stop all Medicaid Cuts.
- (12) Fight against the spread of crime, pornography and dope in our communities.
- (13) Nationalize Welfare and expand Social Security Benefits.

## THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY IN MICHIGAN:

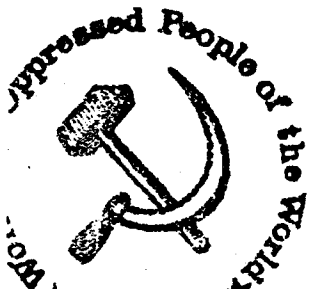
The Communist Labor Party in Michigan has brought together staunch fighters with years of experience in the working class movement. For the past year and a half, we have participated in many aspects of the class struggle in this state, including the following:

1. The CLP gave leadership to the January 17, 1975 Common Council Open Hearing on Unemployment.
2. Staunchly and actively upheld the struggle for busing for integration, equality and quality education for all working class children in the face of a two-fold opposition: the divisive, hate-filled tactics of M.A.D., the Klan, and Donald Lobsinger on the one hand, and those who merely stated their support of the desegregation plan and did nothing to unite working people against the attacks against ourselves.
3. Was instrumental in throwing the Nazi Party out of Kennedy Square and Detroit as a whole
4. Carried on struggles in support of migrant farmworkers throughout the state
5. Have carried on election campaigns focused on the support of busing.
6. Militantly struggled against the closing and cutbacks at Jefferson Avenue Assembly Plant on Detroit's East Side.
7. Have joined in the struggle to create Unemployment Committees to Defend the Rights of Unemployed Workers.

## COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA

For further information about the CLP and its political papers: THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE, and the Spanish Language TRIBUNO POPULAR, write or call:

CLP MICHIGAN CAMPAIGN



**WHY WE SHOULD GIVE CRITICAL SUPPORT TO THE CANDIDACY  
OF GENERAL BAKER, JR., OF THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY  
FOR STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN THE NINTH DISTRICT.**

Submitted for preconvention discussion to the Detroit  
Local by Tim Craine, west Side Branch

The decision of the Communist Labor Party to enter the electoral arena presents a challenge and an opportunity for the Socialist Workers Party. The Communist Labor Party traces its origins to the Revolutionary League of Black Workers, an outgrowth of the upsurge among Black workers in the Detroit auto plants in the late sixties. Over the past few years the CLP has evolved into a Stalinist sect. Although it is fairly insignificant on the national level, its major area of strength is here in Detroit, where its support is primarily in the Black community and its membership considerably exceeds our own.

The Communist Labor Party appears to many radicalized young people and workers as an attractive alternative to capitalist politics. These are people whom we should strive to win over to revolutionary socialist politics. The CLP, imbued with Stalinist ideology, is an obstacle to recruiting these people to the program of revolutionary socialism. Devising tactics to combat the influence of the CLP thus becomes one of the tasks of the Detroit Local of the SWP. In the past we have had few opportunities to accomplish this. The election campaign now provides us with an opening.

In this election the CLP is running only one candidate, General Baker, Jr., for the relatively minor office of State Representative. The ninth district, in which he is running, includes all of Highland Park and nearby sections of Detroit. It is an area in which the SWP and the YSA are politically active and lies within the First Congressional District in which B.R. Washington is running for the SWP.

Since we are not running a candidate for state representative in opposition to Baker, I believe that we should give Baker critical support in this election.

Critical support for a candidate of another party means that we ask people to vote for the candidate while at the same time criticizing the platform on which he is running. Critical support is one means of opposing the politics of the party to whom we extend critical support. We support the fact that the candidate is running as a working class candidate in opposition to the capitalist parties, while criticizing her or his program as inadequate to meet the needs of the working class.

The history of the SWP's use of the tactic of critical support is a rich one. In the past the SWP has extended critical support to candidates such as Herbert Aptheker of the Communist Party (New York, 1966), Bill Epton of the



Progressive Labor Party (New York, early sixties), and Bobby Seale of the Black Panther Party (Oakland, California, 1973). (In the case of Seale, we should note that the SWP withdrew critical support from Seale when he crossed the class line and declared himself a Democrat.)

The question of under what circumstances it is appropriate to give critical support has generated much discussion and debate within the SWP. Comrades who are not familiar with the discussion may refer to the Education for Socialists Bulletin, "Aspects of Socialist Election Policy," March 1971, Section VI. In addition the preconvention discussion for the 1975 national convention featured a lively debate on the question of critical support to candidates of the Communist Party between Ed Alvin, Joseph Hansen, and Tom Kerry (See SWP Discussion Bulletin Vol. 33, No. 6, 8, and 11).

In determining whether or not we should give a candidate critical support we must ask two questions: first, is such an action in accordance with our principles, and second, is it tactically advantageous. Unless we can answer the first question affirmatively, there is no use considering the second question..

The question of principle involves the class character of the political party with which the candidate is running. Our strategic goal is to promote independent political action on the part of the working class. Any support to a capitalist party, no matter how critical, violates that principle. We can only justify electoral support to another party if that party is a working class party.

During the 1974 election campaign, the Detroit branch undertook an examination of the Human Rights Party. We determined that the Human Rights Party did not represent a break with capitalist politics. (See article by Marti Pettit in SWP Discussion Bulletin Vol. 33 no. 14). For that reason we did not even consider giving critical support to the HRP candidates who were running for offices (in Ann Arbor) for which there was no SWP candidate. To have given critical support to the HRP would have been unprincipled.

The case of the Communist Labor Party is different. The Stalinist ideology of this party places it within one of the three major currents of the working class movement, Social Democracy, Stalinism, and Trotskyism. Although it does not represent the pure Moscow variety of Stalinism, it is a working class party in the same sense that the Communist Party, the Progressive Labor Party, and the Revolutionary Communist Party are.

We should note that the program of the Communist Labor Party is not necessarily any better than the program of the Human Rights Party.. On at least one point, the Human Rights Party program was actually closer to ours—they supported the "out now" wing of

the antiwar movement in 1972-73, whereas the CLP supported the "sign the treaty" wing. It is the class character of the party, not its program, that decides the question of principle.

Thus it is principled to support a candidate of the Communist Labor Party. But that does not necessarily mean that we should use the tactic of critical support. In the same election in which the SWP gave critical support to Communist Party candidate Herbert Aptheker, we withheld support from a Progressive Labor Party candidate, Wendy Nakashima, on the grounds that since her campaign was not attracting much attention, giving her critical support would result in few gains for the SWP and become a diversion from more important areas of work.

So we must now ask what advantage, if any, would the SWP derive from giving General Baker, Jr., critical support.

On the local level, the CLP is in some ways stronger than we are. They are waging a vigorous campaign and are attracting a milieu that we wish to attract. Giving critical support to Baker can help us win the attention of this milieu.

In the first place we demonstrate that we're not sectarian, for we are willing to support their campaign in spite of our disagreements with their program. At the same time we put the CLP on the spot. If they are really in favor of independent political action, why don't they support B.R. Washington, the SWP candidate for Congress? Or Camejo for President? If the CLP leadership responds with their usually rabid anti-Trotskyism, they expose themselves as sectarians. Or if they say they don't support our candidates because our candidates don't have a chance of winning (they seem to think that Baker actually does!), then they expose themselves as opportunists. If we press them on this point we may find that they actually find something "progressive" in the candidacies of Jimmy Carter and John Conyers, whom they may actually prefer to Camejo and Washington.

On the other hand if they give critical support to the SWP campaign, we have a wider opening which allows us to work with their membership and discuss politics in a friendly way. We would welcome that opportunity, since it would give us a greater chance to win over individual CLP members and supporters.

In order to make our tactic of critical support effective, we would want to do the following:

1. We would study their program and draft a carefully worded leaflet expressing our criticisms. The leaflet would ask voters of the ninth district to vote for Camejo-Reid, Reimers, Washington, Duncan, Hayes, and Baker. It would also suggest that the CLP support our candidates.

2. We would take that leaflet with us whenever we went campaigning in the ninth district, especially in our work at Highland Park Community College. There we are likely to run into people who ask what the difference is between the S.F. and the CLP, and this leaflet would answer their questions.

3. We would seek out campaign activities which the CLP is building on its own and intervene in them with this leaflet and other campaign materials.

The alternatives to critical support are to ignore the CLP campaign or to simply denounce the CLP. To ignore the CLP is to let a large layer of radicalized Detroiters get sucked into rotten Stalinist politics by default. And to denounce the CLP without offering to support their candidate would make it harder for us to win a hearing in this milieu.

There is one additional benefit that may be derived from this tactic. The CLP is one of the few organizations on the left besides the SWP which supports busing and has actively participated in pro-bussing demonstrations such as the May 17, 1975, march on Boston. We would like to get them actively involved in the work of the Student Coalition Against Racism. We should also explore what their position is on Mayor Young's attacks on Black youth, for we may be able to work with them in coalitions against the curfew and the imposition of STRASS. If by using the tactic of critical support we succeed in opening the door so that they will start talking to us, we may be able to bring them into united front actions with us. This would benefit the antiracist struggle and provide us with opportunities to work with them in the period following the election and make further inroads on their ranks.

August 31, 1976

# VOICE YOUR CHOICE

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General Baker, an assembly line worker at Ford Rouge, fights for the platform of jobs, peace and equality.

His opponent, George Edwards, Chairman of the Corporations and Finance Committee in the House of Representatives, actively supports banks and insurance companies.

General Baker lives in the Ninth District and fights for better working conditions at work and better living conditions in our communities.

His opponent owns a house in the Ninth District but does not live in it. By reason of his wealth, he knows nothing of the problems faced by people in the Ninth District.

General Baker has participated in struggles in the community to upgrade education at Highland Park Community College, to recall reactionary boards of education and to give children camping and recreation experience.

His opponent has been state representative from the Ninth District for 20 years. His work has focused on legislation to support banks and insurance companies. For this work, he is now a rich man and conditions in the Ninth District have steadily deteriorated.

General Baker fights for a program which includes free universal health care.

His opponent did absolutely nothing when Highland Park General Hospital was shut down.

General Baker led the fight to keep the Jefferson Avenue Plant open and to build unemployment committees to fight for jobs.

His opponent said nothing and did nothing to keep jobs open in Wayne County or Michigan.

General Baker fights for unionization of the South and against right to work laws to prevent the continuous loss of jobs to that area.

His opponent says nothing and does nothing about jobs, welfare, housing and he has no program.

General Baker is a representative of working people and in particular of working people in the Ninth District.

His opponent is representative of the banks and insurance companies.

General Baker is the Communist Labor Party's candidate for state representative in the Ninth District.

His opponent represents all that we must fight against.

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20 YEARS IS ENOUGH! ! ! THIS NOVEMBER YOU DO HAVE A CHOICE.  
VOTE FOR GENERAL BAKER FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
FOR THE NINTH DISTRICT NOVEMBER 2ND

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# ELECT GENERAL BAKER

COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY

16525 HAMILTON / HIGHLAND PARK, MICHIGAN 48203 / (313) 341-0346

# VOTE FOR A CHANGE

CLP CANDIDATE GENERAL BAKER

SEP 21 1976

General Baker was born in Detroit in 1941, and has been in the working class struggle for all his adult life. Since the early 1960's, Gen has been a leader in the struggle of the Negro people for equality, and of the whole working class for socialism. He was active in the United Negro Improvement Association; the UHURU Organization at Wayne State, in the anti-war movement, and in the communities. While working at Dodge Main, Gen was one of the founders of the Revolutionary Union Movement (DRUM). He was a full-time staff member of the Inner City Voice, and one of the founders of the League of Revolutionary Black Workers.

When the Communist Labor Party was formed in 1974, General Baker was one of the leading members of the party, who had worked actively for its formation. Since that time he has continued his involvement in all of the main

struggles in Detroit, in Michigan, and throughout the country.

General Baker has felt speed-up and unemployment, he has experienced the policeman's club and jail, he has seen the poor schools, rats, and knows what it is to strike and stage a walk-out. But most important, General Baker is dedicated to eliminating these problems and fighting for a better country and society for his children.

Gen is a real leader of the working class. Now it is time to put his leadership skills, and his unwavering dedication to the cause of the working class, into the halls of the state legislature. Only the workers and progressive people of Michigan can win this victory. Put General Baker in the State Legislature. Give the working class a voice of its own.

**Elect General Baker in November**

**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.
- (8) Expand the public sector of housing; guarantee decent housing through government financing and public housing.
- (9) Support the Right to Bear Arms.
- (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 standards.
- (11) Free Universal Medical Care, stop all Medicaid Cuts.
- (12) Fight against the spread of crime, pornography and dope in our communities.
- (13) Nationalize Welfare and expand Social Security Benefits.

## COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA

For further information about the CLP and its political papers; THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE, and the Spanish language TRIBUNO POPULAR, and the Campaign to Elect General Baker, call or write:

16525 Hamilton  
Highland Park, Michigan 48203

241 2246



# COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY



# CAMPAIGN NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 6, 1976

## NO. 1 PRIORITY - ELECT GEN

It should be clear to us that the priority which we must adopt as progressives, as socialists, for the next several months, is the election of General Baker. For his election can move all of the other work which we are involved in forward tremendously.

To have a communist elected to state office in Michigan will have world-wide effect. And most certainly here in Michigan, it will have tremendous effect in galvanizing the struggles of the workers, further uniting them and giving further recognized leadership to the working class.

Every struggle in the plant about speed-up, every workman's compensation struggle, every battle for quality health care and quality education will be taken up by Gen. The needs and aspirations of the working class and progressive people are Gen's own.

We must see that in order to move everything forward, we must concentrate on the election of the Communist Labor Party candidate for the state legislature from the 9th district -- General Baker.



## COMRADES AND FRIENDS

An important part of our campaign to get General elected in the 9th District is the struggle to register voters. This is true because the mass of workers are not registered.

Even though the Democratic Party announces itself to be the party of the working man, they expend little energy on voter registration. And because of their tweedle dee politics, they inspire few to go out and register. On the other hand, if the Communist Labor Party does some work to educate the workers in the 9th District, it can look forward to a large proportion of the vote of those who will now be getting registered.

Therefore we are going among those who have not registered. In cooperation with the Detroit Unemployed Council, COPE, NAACP and other organizations, we will see to it that an extensive voter registration campaign is waged between now and October 4 -- the last day for registration for the November elections.

Anyone who is interested in registering voters should please call the campaign office at 341-0346 and we will refer you to the appropriate organization.

The fight to elect Gen is the fight of all of us. LET'S GET OUT THERE AND REGISTER VOTERS IN THE FIGHT FOR A BETTER LIFE AND IN THE STRUGGLE FOR SOCIALISM.

CLP - 16525 HAMILTON, H.P. - 341-0346

## "DEMOCRACY" EXPOSED AS FARCE FOR WORKERS

The process of getting General Baker on the ballot has been one of overcoming one obstacle after another. Why has it been so difficult? Because General Baker stands for socialism and his campaign presents a threat to the continued rule of the capitalists. In the course of this struggle to present a real choice in November, we have had to battle the state in the courts at the same time as we have campaigned in the community.

When the Communist Labor Party decided to run General Baker, the only requirement to be placed on the ballot was to gather 17,000 signatures on petitions. After we had gathered twice the signatures necessary, the capitalists set up another roadblock--Public Act 94. This law forced voters in the August 3 primary to choose between voting to get the CLP and its candidate on the ballot in November and choosing candidates for the other races. For the first time in the history of this country, the state made a political party run in a special race just to get its name on the ballot!!

The CLP filed in federal court to prove this law was unconstitutional and get it taken off the books. We asked for an immediate injunction to stop the state from printing the August 3 ballots, but the federal judges refused to act.

As if the law itself was not outrageous enough, the state moved on other fronts. Three days before the election, the CLP motorcade in Gen's district was stopped and six people were beaten, maced, and arrested. But election day itself brought violations of the law at the polls that really made clear that this was a rigged election.

Election officials repeatedly gave voters incorrect instructions about how to vote for the CLP. Some voting machines had metal bars over the Party Qualification Section so it could not be pulled down. Demonstration voting machines showed only the Democratic and Republican party choices. Instruction ballots had the wrong number for the CLP. Our poll workers were singled out personally by Highland Park City Clerk Tremon McDermott and arrested for "being within the 100 foot limit." Spanish language ballots were translated incorrectly, causing ballots cast for the CLP by Spanish-speaking voters to be invalidated.

In mid-election day we again went to federal court and protested that with these injustices there was no way the election results would be fair. Again we asked the federal judges to stop the election and once again they refused to act saying "lets see what happens! Lets see how many votes are cast."

As the reports from the precincts came in, the poll workers told us that many election officials were refusing to even count the votes cast for the CLP. We refused to be discouraged and gathered signed statements from our many supporters testifying to this fraud and corruption. We prepared new legal papers for the federal judges outlining each and every outrage--exposing the way the working class was tricked. We demanded immediate action--put Gen on the November ballot!!

The judges knew a court hearing on our latest legal papers would clearly show the people of Michigan how undemocratic this election was. To avoid this, they gave us a compromise decision--they upheld the constitutionality of Public Act 94 in general, but said it would not apply to this November election.

Why did we win this victory? The judges were forced to put Gen on the November ballot because the CLP battled on every front. We waged a tit-for-tat struggle with the police, the corrupt city clerks, and the federal judges. We had with us hundreds of honest workers, fed up with the unemployment, poor housing, welfare cut-backs and crime offered them by the capitalists.

We must continue the fight to use the ballot to raise the question of socialism. The judges' decision upholding P.A. 94 will be appealed to the United States Supreme Court. The only way to protect our democratic right to vote for the party that represents our interests--to fight for it in every way necessary. The CLP will seek to have federal marshals supervise the elections in the 9th District. But we will also train our supporters to guard the polls on November 2 and prevent the election officials from robbing the workers of their votes once again.

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# "Why Work for General Baker's Election?"

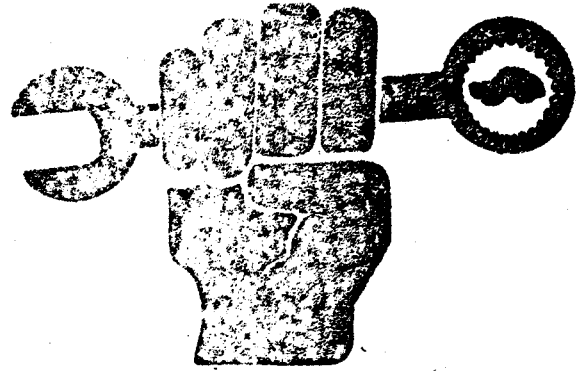
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We have heard the question recently from a number of people -- "I don't live in the 9th District, what can I do to help General Baker get elected?" People have also asked, why should I help since he isn't in my district and I can't vote for him and he won't represent me?

Taking the second question first, it seems a little strange that people would ask this, for although the content of our campaign is different from all the others, the form is pretty much the same. All parties and organizations supporting candidates focus in on a few crucial races which they feel will make a real difference.

For instance, progressives from around the country support Ron Dellums, Congressman from California, even though they don't live in his district or even his state, because of the positions he takes and struggles for. The same is true of the conservatives in their support for Senator Buckley in New York or Hayakawa in California. Money, support and endorsements flow in from around the country. They focus their support and money on one campaign to move their work forward all around the country. We must do the same. Just as Dellums and Buckley will fight for issues around the country and represent a certain class, so too will Gen.

Gen may be running in the 9th District, but he will represent workers all over the country. We understand that electing Gen will not change the character of the State Legislature itself, but it will change the character of the struggle within it and without to a great degree.



Gen can and will speak out against the deals that go down, the laws that are passed at the expense of workers throughout the state. He will speak out in support of workers struggles everywhere and introduce legislation to move forward the struggle of the workers for a better life.

Gen will consistently put forward the fact that it is only socialism which will in the end bring us a qualitatively better life, and it is only the working class and its allies which can bring this about. Have no fear, Gen will, as he has always done, represent the best in our society. His representation will not be limited to any particular nationality or age or place of work or community -- certainly not to any imaginary lines drawn by the politicians.

In terms of the first question about what people can do, we have to point out again that Gen will, in fact, represent us all and therefore we must all work to get him elected. Fundraisers of all sorts are needed from block clubs, unions, churches, etc. You can organize a get-together of neighbors to talk about Gen and with him. We need endorsements from organizations and prestigious individuals. This will aid us in the campaign in the 9th District.

The struggle is one. We must be one in our efforts.



# **MARCH FOR JOBS SEPTEMBER 22**

Every day now the newspapers are full of stories about the crime in the city. And how are the capitalist politicians planning to stop crime? By treating all our youth as criminals. Concentration camps are being proposed through bills, such as House Bill 6395, which would allow over 1,000 children to be imprisoned in forced labor camps for indefinite periods of time for 12-18 year olds. Detention cages such as the ones on Grand River and Rosa Parks Boulevard (12th Street) are already in use! Plans are being made to use department store facilities for jails.

Even though we are opposed to criminal acts, we understand the real criminals are the Nixons, Fords, and the other capitalist politicians who offer only imprisonment for our children. These capitalist politicians leave our youth no where to turn in the face of a millage failure which aids in turning horrible and shameful Detroit city schools into more hideous and dilapidated schools. Unemployment against our youth has ranged from 30% to 50% in the inner city for the last three years. Compared to this situation the big 3 auto companies have been reaping profits. At the end of the second quarter in June, General Motors Corporation recorded 909 million dollars more profits than they have ever made in history. The Ford Motor Company listed 442 million and Chrysler Corporation recorded 155 million. For the first ten days in August they all listed more record profits for auto sales!!

While all of these corporations house their headquarters right near and around the cities of Highland Park and Detroit, they have not offered us a dime, as all of the hopes, dreams, morality of our youth are crushed by capitalist exploitation!! Back in 1968, the Big 3 Auto companies offered programs to hire inner city labor, including youth, after the 1967 Rebellion. Ford hired 5,000; GM sent buses from Detroit to Pontiac to transport their new labor force; and Chrysler Corporation started a hard-core program! But, today, they offer nothing but detention centers and curfews. During the week of August 3rd, three youth entered Chrysler's Mack Stamping Plant and worked 3 days for nothing which dramatized the desperate fight for jobs for youth!

Thus, we are calling for a broad coalition of youth to March for Jobs! We are demanding that our youth be placed into apprenticeship programs and be trained for skilled jobs. We want an end to monies being directed toward concentration camp sites, labor camps, and detention cages proposed by politicians and FBI aspirants!

**WE ARE CALLING FOR 10,000 UNEMPLOYED YOUTH AND SUPPORTERS TO MARCH FOR JOBS SEPTEMBER 22nd!!**

The September 22nd Movement

sister the World Bank have been used to drive their hands into Argentina. The

# Gorilla' Base in Latin America

From all over Latin America, high-ranking military officers and secret police officials have travelled to Brazil to receive their "gorilla" training. At a special training center at Belo Horizonte, one of Brazil's three largest cities, they have received instruction in methods of torture. Prior to the fascist takeover in Chile, seminars were held at the Belo Horizonte torture school with representatives from every Latin American country in attendance, featuring instructors from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and the Army's Special Forces. At these seminars Brazilian political prisoners were used to show the use of electric shock, torture, constant oppression. The Texas legislature is reactionary, fascist-oriented and tightly controlled by grower interests. Texas was one of the first states in the USNA to pass a "Right to Work" law. This law has been one of the capitalists' legal weapons to crush the organization of farmworker unions, to weaken the unions that do exist, and has become the scourge of all workers in this country.

All states in the Negro Nation have these laws and the Texas law is a model of reaction. The Texas law was passed in 1947 as part of a

and the rest of Latin America. In the 1950's, U.S. imperialism through the Wall Street banks and financial houses established the Joint US-Brazil Economic Development Commission with the purpose of converting Brazil's massive agricultural economy based on the growing and export of coffee into the major industrial country of Latin America. Today, Brazil not only produces half the world's coffee, but it is also the major producer of steel, machines, cars and trucks, and other goods for the rest of Latin America. However, the Brazilian people receive very little from this new industrial development, since the Brazilian economy is almost organizing on both sides of the border, have given the working class a real example of proletarian internationalism. Through support of the struggles of the TFW, the Anglo-American working class supports not only the Mexican national minority worker, Latin America. Support for the TFW is a good example of hemispheric unity. It is this type of concrete action which unites the proletariat of the Americas and strikes a blow to USNA imperialism.

## General Baker

Continued from Page 1

Communist Labor Party, the program of jobs, peace and equality. He stands for equal, quality education and for the nationalization of the school system which would force the federal government to fund the system equally so that millage would no longer be necessary. The working people have been taxed too much, too long. The federal government must take on the task of educating our youth, and not relegating them to a life of illiteracy. General Baker will fight for the nationalization of education.

We urge all the people of Detroit to join the September 22 movement and demonstrate for jobs and decent education. Our youth deserve a chance for something better. We also urge all workers and progressive people to vote for

General Baker this November, and give the working class their long awaited voice within government.

The Communist Labor Party urges all the readers of the *People's Tribune* to help sustain our party's press by subscribing now.

- P.O. Box 783, Linwood Station Detroit, Michigan 48206
- P.O. Box 170, Times Plaza Sta. Brooklyn, New York 11217
- P.O. Box 3774 Chicago, Ill. 60654
- P.O. Box 24241, Bayview Sta. San Francisco, CA.

# Latin America Issue

THE POLITICAL PAPER OF THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY OF THE UNITED S

# PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

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

Vol. 3 No. 20 September 15, 1976

Vote for Art Goldberg on November 2.

## MARCH FOR JOBS

## VOTE FOR GENERAL BAKER

Skilled jobs for unemployed youth! Make the auto companies provide jobs! These will be the demands of thousands of young people, their parents and friends, September 22 in front of the GM world headquarters in Detroit, Michigan.

While the profits of the Big Three auto makers soar, GM reaching a record 909 million dollars, more than they have made ever in history, during the second quarter in June, unemployment among youth, particularly Negro youth, also soars. It is estimated that close to 50% of the Negro youth in the inner city of Detroit are unemployed, with no hope for the future.

In the wake of this disastrous economic situation, the millage proposition (school taxes) failed on the primary ballot. The effects of this will be the closing of many schools, the lay-off of hundreds of teachers, custodial and secretarial staff, the elimination of sports and other extra-curricular programs and the cutting of the school day in half.

Capitalism offers the youth in Detroit a future of illiteracy, drugs and unemployment. That's why this demonstration is being organized. The big corporations, like General Motors, and the state apparatus which represents them, like the Michigan legislature, are responsible for this situation. They must remedy it. In 1968, when GM had another record profit year, a similar movement was formed to demand jobs. Some jobs were provided, not enough, but progress was made. This year that movement is bigger and more organized. This year the demonstration will be addressed by General Baker, Communist Labor Party's candidate for the state legislature in the 9th district. General Baker, a Negro auto worker, and a father of three children, understands what the future holds for the youth of this country. He understands how rapidly this society is deteriorating and he will do something to change it. Gen stands on the program of the

Continued on Page 4

P.O. Box 471 Cooper Station  
New York, N.Y. 10003  
September 28, 1976

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND ANTIRACIST WORK DIRECTORS

Dear Comrades,

Leaders of the National Student Coalition Against Racism have begun discussions on perspectives for NSCAR's activities this fall. A central part of these discussions involves building the Third National Student Antiracist Conference, which will take place November 19-21 at Boston University. The purpose of this communication is to report on these discussions so that YSA chapters, in collaboration with SWP branches, can discuss and plan out our participation in NSCAR's campaigns in the coming months.

The major national priorities NSCAR has outlined for its work this fall include:

1. Stepping up the educational campaign for busing and school desegregation.
2. Organizing solidarity activities and educational events with other groups on the South African freedom struggle and U.S. complicity with South African apartheid.
3. Continuing to support and defend racist frame-up victims. Two cases of special importance which have emerged recently and which NSCAR plans to support nationally are those of Gary Tyler and the Wilmington 10 (see Wilmington 10 letter of September 21, 1976).
4. Holding a national NSCAR steering committee meeting, which will take place October 23 at Boston University. This meeting will discuss NSCAR's fall campaigns and make plans for the November conference.
5. Building the Third National Student Antiracist Conference which will culminate this fall's activities and hold an important discussion on the next steps for the antiracist struggle.

The probusing fight

Busing continues to be the major issue in the fight for Black rights and a major issue in American politics as a whole. The level of racist violence that has accompanied the opening of schools so far this year has been much less than over the past two years. But the bombing of a high school in Louisville, attacks on Black students inside Hyde Park High School in Boston last week, as well as racist attacks on Black families in Dorchester and Blacks demonstrating at Marquette Park in Chicago show that the Black community still faces grave threats to its rights. The antibusing campaign remains at the center of the challenge to the fight for Black equal rights. Anti-

busing bigots have not abandoned their campaign. Both the Democratic and Republican candidates for president have taken antibusing stands.

We should take note of the fact that the probusing movement has made some gains over the past several months--gains which have dealt blows to the racists. Among these were Attorney General Levi's decision, under pressure from the reaction of Black leaders, to back off from encouraging the U.S. Supreme Court to hear the Boston busing case. Another was the Supreme Court's decision not to hear the case. Probably the most significant recent blow dealt the antibusing campaign was the report of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission which condemns the role of both local elected officials and the federal government in refusing to enforce school desegregation through busing.

The question of whether or not busing will proceed so that the 1954 Supreme Court decision can be fully implemented on a national scale has not been definitively decided one way or the other.

The media is proclaiming that the "war" over busing is over. At the same time, some are questioning what school desegregation really accomplishes. We must join NSCAR in answering these questions, educating on the facts of busing, why it is needed, why this issue has not been resolved, why the threat of racist terror is not over, and why we must continue to build a probusing, prodesegregation movement to defend it and protect the gains of the probusing struggle and Black rights.

#### U.S. role in South Africa

This fall, the YSA and SWP have launched a campaign to build solidarity actions and get out the facts about U.S. complicity with South Africa. NSCAR leaders have also discussed making solidarity with the freedom struggle in South Africa a national campaign for NSCAR this fall. NSCAR can show the ties between that struggle and the fight for Black rights here in the U.S. We should encourage NSCAR chapters to take the initiative on the campuses and the high schools around this issue and play the leading role in helping to form broad coalitions in solidarity with the fight for Black rights in South Africa. The YSA will want to participate in these coalitions and their activities.

#### NSCAR national steering committee

The first step in building the National Student Antiracist Conference will be building the October 23 NSCAR national steering committee. This meeting will hold the first broad-based discussion about NSCAR's work this fall and make plans for the conference. NSCAR will have the opportunity this fall to involve in activity many new groups and individuals who may not have worked with NSCAR in the past. The issues of busing, the death penalty, South Africa, and local defense cases can involve many new students in NSCAR's activities. NSCAR wants to get as many new activists and representatives of these new groups as possible to the steering committee meeting. NSCAR chapters will also want to invite community, trade union, and other leaders to attend and observe this meeting.

### Building the conference

In building the steering committee and the conference, NSCAR wants to begin getting the names of prominent endorsers to help publicize the conference. Each SCAR chapter will want to draw up a list of prominent local student and community leaders and begin to collect endorsements and send them into the NSCAR national office. A new conference-building Mobilizer will be ready in early October. NSCAR chapters should place their orders immediately. Important to SCAR chapters carrying out activities on the campuses this fall will be establishing a base of operations, including having a phone number, mailing address, and meeting place. All SCAR chapters are being encouraged to send their addresses to the NSCAR national office immediately so that they can be published in the next Mobilizer.

### The YSA

NSCAR as a national, multiracial student organization organizing activities in the fight for Black rights, has tremendous potential for growth this fall through working with new activists who will be drawn into joint activities around the important new issues that have come to the fore in the Black struggle recently: the death penalty; The Wilmington 10, Gary Tyler, and other defense cases; and the South Africa campaign. There will also be new opportunities to involve new activists in the busing and school desegregation fight.

NSCAR's ability to take advantage of the opportunities it faces for growth will depend in large part on the work of YSA chapters in helping to carry out this work. Along with our work around the SWP election campaign and our socialist propaganda work of which the Militant subscription drive is an important part, building NSCAR and involving ourselves in its campaigns will be one of the most important priorities for the YSA nationally this fall.

While many students are ready to join a revolutionary socialist organization like the YSA, thousands more who have not yet reached socialist conclusions are ready and willing to participate in the fight for Black rights and an organization like NSCAR.

Every YSA chapter, where this has not already been done, should have serious discussions about assigning chapter leaders to anti-racist work and how NSCAR's national campaigns can be carried out on a local level. Reports on any activities or new developments should be sent to the national office.

Comradely,

*Nan Bailey*  
Nan Bailey  
YSA National Office