International Greetings on May Day

Greetings to our comrades and friends of the Canadian Party of Labour!

As we celebrate May Day—the historic holiday of the revolutionary working class of the world—it is a good time to take stock of our development since May Day 1976.

The class struggle is quickening. World imperialism—led by the two main enemies of the world’s working class, U.S. and Soviet imperialism—is loading the scales of war in a manner that is being felt sharply on the North American continent. Working conditions and real wages for the working class are sharply down. Racism is on the increase. The threat of fascism is qualitatively greater.

In the U.S. this has meant the emergence of the Carter program for racism and fascism: “we must all sacrifice” for “the greater glory” of maintaining the rotten profit system of capitalism. U.S. bosses are bent with problems on all sides—permanent recession and mass unemployment; insurmountable grievances among minority workers, especially minority youth, with their only “answer” being a black army formed by brothers and sisters elsewhere, an unreliable army; defeats in Africa and Asia; and a falling rate of profit.

They are trying to shift the burden of the crisis onto the backs of the working class.

In Canada, this world-wide crisis of imperialism has taken the form of different groups of bosses scrambling to maintain and advance their piece of the pie at the expense of the working class. We see French-speaking bosses using Quebec nationalism to take over the exploitation of French- (and English-) speaking workers. We see the bosses’ henchman Trudeau trying to use English-speaking workers to batter this nationalist lashback from Levesque. And we see both groups of bosses attacking immigrant workers as a last refuge of capitalist exploitation, as U.S. bosses use minority workers in the United States.

One of the revolutionary communist parties of the Canadian Party of Labour and the Progressive Labor Party have the answer for this capitalist-induced misery—the complete destruction of capitalism by workers’ armed revolution led by our class’s communist vanguard. Only socialism, the rule of the working class, offers workers a life free of depression, imperialism, war, racism, mass unemployment, pornography, the special oppression of women and the utter degeneracy of capitalist “culture”.

Only the CPL/PLP line of concentration on the industrial working class to lead the whole working class and to win others’ rule will be able to achieve this goal. Only our Marxist-Leninist understanding points out who it is that produces all value in production, the industrial working class, and who opposes that class and expropriates that value in the form of surplus value or profit to keep capitalism in the driver’s seat. And only the communist ideas of CPL/PLP show that it is the control and use of state power that enables this capitalist class to keep the producing class in a servile position; that, therefore, it is necessary for the working class, led by its communist general staff to smash the bosses’ state power, erect working class state power, and outlaw capitalism, profits, bosses and the lies they spun.

It is fitting that in celebrating May Day 1977, we take note of an historic international working class demonstration. In the course of the three week meeting on this continent—the CPL, the PLP, and the Union of Revolutionary Communist Parties of the Americas—agreed on a list of principles that could and will lead to the establishment of new, international communist movement, May Day in the holiday of international proletariat solidarity. The unity of these three parties signifies that we are creating a new and smashing the bosses imposed on us by the bosses of Canada, the U.S. and Mexico and truly adopting as our own the slogan of “Workers of the world, unite! We have nothing to lose but our chains; we have a world to win!”

United in international class struggle, inexorably bound together by class hatred of capitalism and imperialism, the scourage of workers and oppressed people everywhere, and instilled with the will to make socialist revolution, let us resolve to be the CPL and the PLP, to this day, our day, the working class’ day, May Day—and to build our party, smash racism, fight for proletarian internationalism and for seizure of state power by the working class.

If and when the bosses in the U.S. and Canada or anywhere else start their wars to re-divide thrones to exploit the various sections of the world’s working class, we will turn their imperialist war into a civil war to end capitalism and imperialism once and for all

We call upon all friends of the CPL and the PLP at this May Day celebration to do the one thing that can change all our lives: join our movement and fight for Socialism!

With revolutionary greetings, the National Committee of the Progressive Labor Party.

International Briefs

Boots Fight Each Other in Pakistan

KARACHI, PAKISTAN—Hundreds have been killed by the army and police here as Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto attempts to overthrow them. The opposition, formed by the Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) is accusing Bhutto of rigging the March 7th election. The PNA, an alliance of nine right-wing bourgeois parties, has organized days of demonstrations since March 7th. The PNA has rejected all conciliatory moves by Bhutto. Bhutto is supported by a pro-Western section of the ruling class. The army faction that supports Bhutto is British-trained, and has twice held power directly. The last time the army ruled directly was when Pakistan lost Bangladesh. The PNA is supported by more religion-oriented capitalists. Neither group represents any alternative for the workers and peasants of Pakistan.

Army Leaves Dominican Univ.

SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, April 21—After 40 days of military occupation of the National Autonomous University here, the government ordered the troops out. The students at the university have been in the center of struggle against the government here. The government has been cutting back on the budget of the university as the number of students increases. In order to justify the military occupation (the third in the last five years), the Balaguer government has been saying that the university is a center of leftist agitation, and doesn’t teach anything. It says that students are being admitted massively and “quality education” isn’t taking place. The government has been helped in this by a reactionary group of professors linked to the reactionary and tiny pro-Soviet “Communist” Party (P’T’D). The government and the P’T’D professors (which want the government to give them the university) based their argument on a report about the university prepared by another scab, Felipe Richardon, a former Allende aid and an “expert” in education. The line of this Chulé “expert” is that a mass university is bad and that university education should be reserved for a few (the same line pushed in the U.S. to create racist elite universities).

Energy Crisis

Energy Crisis (continued from page 2)

sliding into the paralysis of sub-zero growth, or heading gradually toward the old-fashioned recourse to war in search of raw material sources—in this case the oil front. molecules EXTREME NEED BE ULTIMATELY ALARMIST.” (Our emphasis.)

Sultzberger then indicates the inevitability of war, long ago spelled out by Lenin in his work on imperialism. It is for war in quest of material gains a fact of life. “This is a very old and ingrained habit in mankind, the only living species save the harvest ant to organize conquests for that purpose. Anyone who remembers the stir of this thesis floated during the Kristallnacht should note here the imploring that Washington might encourage seize Saudi Arabia’s petroleum wells, can see that the idea is not 100 per cent removed from contingency thinking.” (It isn’t “mankind” which makes war inevitable; it is imperialism.)

Carter’s Plan, which is the Plan of the Dominant section of the old monarchy ruling class, is doomed to failure on at least two counts. At this stage of history, each grouping in the ruling class is pulling for its own interests. The ruling class is unable to unite on anything unless it stands to gain further exploitation on the workers. But this very oppression, combined with the growing inability of the rulers to function as a cohesive unit, weakens the ability of the bourgeoisie to hold power.

These current attacks on the workers will sooner or later open a flood-gate of class struggle. More and more workers will see capitalism as a system of death and destruction—a system that squanders millions of lives for profit. Workers will recognize that the capitalists are ready to destroy hundreds of millions of more lives to hold onto their stolen profits. As the working-class storm gathers, and explodes, the ruling class will go down to defeat in the face of working class resolve for a future without the oppression of Marxism-Leninism led by our party—the Progressive Labor Party.

“Let the ruling class tremble; we have a world to win.” This May Day is part of this coming revolutionary storm.