TEACHERS AUTO STRIKE!

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**BLACK POWER ADVOCATES SCAB AGAINST TEACHERS STRIKE**

The conduct of the leading black power advocates during the New York City teachers strike shows the complete reactionariness of the black power advocates playing their complete betrayal of the real interests of the Negro masses, especially Negro youth. After another, the black power people have lined up on the side of the Board of Education. This is the same board of education, made up of leading financial figures in the city, which is responsible for the decay of the city school system and the current decay of the ghetto schools. First we have the spectacle of the Brooklyn CORE, which recently announced it had given up on the ghetto anyway and was going to go back to the soil, coming to a mass meeting of teachers and burning an effigy of Albert Shanker, president of the UFT. Then Floyd McKissick and St. John Hope walked across picket lines and entered schools to actually SCAB on the union. Yes, these two heroes of the Socialist Workers Party and Communist Party have revealed their real natures as nothing more than filthy vultures, even when serving the unity of the working class. They are the enemies of every union man, every socialist in this country.

The excuse for their action is that the strike is depriving ghetto youth of an education. Of course, the union is attacking ghetto youth just as completely, and the right of teachers to expel disruptive students from classes.

As far as the "disruptive students" issue is concerned this is nothing more than a repetition of the reactionariness of the reactionary side of the union. But the solution is not to support this side of the union. Neither are they the perpetrators of the oppression of the Negro masses, the Board of Education and the big business forces that this whole affair is about. The real problem is that many Negro teachers, to a decent salary, but also a strike in which the union is demanding a reduction in class size and an expansion of special educational programs in the ghetto.

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**Ford Forces Strike in Attack on Auto Workers**

**THE BATTLE BEGINS AT FORD**

By Dan Fried

Picket lines appeared in any other strike in recent years, the shutdown of Ford Motor Company by the UAW represents a struggle not simply of one union against one company, but of all of organized labor ranged against the entire capitalist class. Henry Ford II is not only acting as a spokesman for his own interests, but as a means of imposing his will on all unions. This is what actually takes place when the UAW takes down the picket line which depletes the union strike fund, to be followed by the possibility of a similar strike against GM. At the same time, GM and Chrysler are attempting to weaken the workers position during the Ford strike by not nationalizing the strike in any way to make gains on these "local issues" that they employ their membership for a long period by the entire AFL-CIO and independent unions to support the UAW strike fund.

**Ford's River Rouge Plant**

nomic and political. On the economic plane, Ford's willingness to wear down and demoralize the UAW ranks through a long strike which depletes the union strike fund, to be followed by the possibility of a similar strike against GM. At the same time, GM and Chrysler are attempting to weaken the workers position during the Ford strike by not nationalizing the strike in any way to make gains on these "local issues" that they employ their membership for a long period by the entire AFL-CIO and independent unions to support the UAW strike fund.

**worthwhile**

At the same time the Ford workers, realizing that they could not die for a long battle, must make such a battle worthwhile. The auto war on the UAW must be turned into a rout of the auto bosses. Everywhere there has been at least one demonstration in support of the UAW. If that is the way we operate, we will already backed down from an original 9% wage demand increase to one of 2%. We have to keep an eye on the "Flexible" Mr. Reuther. The auto bosses have the money to make them pay.

**Canadian UAW**

There is another factor that workers also knows that wages are only part of the war. Any concessions to the bosses on these issues is an increase in their power to make even more concessions to the other side of the economic and political. On the economic plane, Ford's willingness to wear down and demoralize the UAW ranks through a long strike which depletes the union strike fund, to be followed by the possibility of a similar strike against GM. At the same time, GM and Chrysler are attempting to weaken the workers position during the Ford strike by not nationalizing the strike in any way to make gains on these "local issues" that they employ their membership for a long period by the entire AFL-CIO and independent unions to support the UAW strike fund.

**Ford and Chrysler**

In terms of UAW strength, Ford is better able to throw against the union, but Chrysler is in better political shape. Chrysler is better able to throw against the union, but Chrysler has a more militantccoalition of the political left.

**Ethnic Policy**

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**by Charles Henry Turner**

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Ford hopes through a long strike to prepare the ground for what the New York Times calls, "Congressioner conions on union power", i.e., for more anti-labor, anti-socialist measures. In short, the meaning of Henry Ford II's statement that "we don't have laws that effectively prevent the use of this kind of behavior against the public interest." Of course the so-called public interest that Ford and his millionaire capitalist cohort refer to is the continued ability of these people to make huge profits off the back and sweat of workers in Ford, GM, and around the world.

It is clear that the Ford workers are in the depths of the struggle of the GM and Chrysler workers and of the entire Ford and Chrysler are appr- approximately the same. On the other hand sales of all the three companies have increased rapidly and prices have been as low as that of the two major Canadian companies enjoy in the U.S.

**politicl**

The union's drive led by the Reuther machine is unsupported by any such fight, for the fight for parity is a political fight. To demand parity means to challenge the political control of Government in Ottawa which recognizes the significance of such an issue. The parity of the capitalist interests they represent. Reuther with his policy of flexibility is incapable of leading such a fight and incapable of winning such a fight. A new demonstration showed of uniting the various unions such as the skilled, production and clerical workers. Canadian auto workers must prepare themselves for a hard struggle, and they must join with their American brothers in helping them to build a labor party and to throw out the present leadership. They must demand that NDP members of Parliament take up their fight in Ottawa and that MPP's call for the nationalization of auto workers.

**NO FLEXIBILITY ON PARITY! NATIONALIZATION OF AUTO WORKERS! 30 YEARS AND OUT -- 30 FOR 40!**
NEW POLITICS MEETS ENDS IN SHACKLE OVER POWER

stalinst and black nationalists join hands

by Bob Johnson

Chicago—The birth of "New Politics" suffered a severe white misadventure at Chicago's Labor Day 1967 Lamphor House this Labor Day weekend. The Convention of the National Conference for New Poli- tics (NCNP) and the Negro struggle against the bounds of capitalist politics with a 1968 3rd presidencial ticket and a national organization to presumably link all those organizations representing today's "peace" and "freedom" activities. This is the third year the conventional politicos sees its only role to be left pressure on this or that capitalist politician. Stalinst politics is making more sense for using the struggles of the working class as the basis.

The NCNP Stalinsts do not want a "clean" class break from the two ruling parties. For them, independent political action is to be used as a means of controlling the ruling party is impossible in a certain area. This in them had clearly made allies among the liberal organizations that in the American working class it was possible to win allies without the help of the American working class. They were the only ones who could do this, and they did in 1964 for what they believe to be the lesser evil.

new left

Besides the Stalinsts (working chiefly through the Daubon Club) and the older liberals, the two chief other forces present at the Convention were the Black Nationalists and the white radical student and ex-student "community organizers" as they were termed by the NCNP, the New Left, in their version in the flying colors. And they put on quite a show. They were a part of the whole American scene of the impressionistic basis that the American working class was quite content and never would move into action for its own social or political gains. It was the middle class and the lumpen proletariat, that is, petty bourgeoisie forces, black and white, Radical "community organizers" and themselves as activists were a reflection of the crisis of capitalist politics in the student movement. The "theoreticians" of the new left prefer to cut themselves off from their own background.

While the former one was a militant threat during the boom of the 50's were preparing their parties and their revolutionary theory for the great class battles ahead, and to struggle against all kind of revisionist currents which impressionistic and abandoned the class struggle perspective, the "New Left" emerged in the 60's starting from the belief that the class struggle died with this in- flationary process at all. Even the salvation of mankind was the work of the enlightened bourgeoisie intellectuals (of which they were in the forefront) combined with the slave owners of society. Most of them have spent their energies in a duel from the struggles of the working class doing unpaid social work amongst the "poor".

Bob Johnson attempts to show the New Left's camp just as Johnson did in 1964. But the point is, in 1964, the student activists around SDS and the various community projects, rather than drawing the real lessons from the anti-war movement to reject politics altogether. These groups came to the Convention to propose a National Year of Organizing, that is, more politics, less protest, and they have been doing up to this point. Their argument is that white poli- tics is not going to help, and the "real" workers are the ones that need a broad based, grass roots populist movement before we embark on political adventures.

black course

The Convention proceedings themselves were quite unstructured, and order broke down. The last few days can

"Whitley" eat a little racist crow. Before the Conven- tion was over everyone was talking of the white radicals, by and large, had nothing to lose in this for all along they have been aware of the racism in the Stalinsts, the "white" whites, and blacks should organise blacks.

In the voting Saturday night, the "National Year of Organizing" perspective defeated the Third Ticket perspective by only two votes out of a-10,000 votes, after suitable bickering, re-voting, and maneuvering.

The liberals who were hoping for a new third party were hopelessly outsmarted on the Left. They proved themselves utterly impotent.

magic card

The Sunday meeting was the most important. First, the Stalinsts wanted a re-vote on perspectives, still clinging to their hope for various third tickets around the country. But then came the repor- t from the credentials committees, The 2,117 registered delegates had a total of 33,859 votes. Of these, 2,341 votes were already in the hands of black organizations. The difference was 28,598. To the reported vote from the credentials on the 13 points, the reported said was to give the leader of the Black Caucus a voting card worth 28,598 votes.

The debate on this report was a repetition of the whole thing over the acceptance of one or more of the candidates that now the Stalinsts were on the Black Caucus bandwagon, and, after the Convention finally realized why they were behind, it was to swallow the whole bird. In the name of equal representation, voting over two to one, and amidst passionate debate, the credentials report gave the leader of the Black Caucus a voting card worth 28,598 votes. It was only clear that this had an advantage. No longer would the convention be required to wait an hour or two to fill a slot. Only one man in the back door to the compromise perspectives resolution. This final resolution was announced about 3:00 in the morning amid shouts and flowers passed out by loving hippies. The compromise leaves the ques- tion of independent politics up to the affirmative of the individual states while emphasizing the National Year of Organizing.

The relationship between the Black Nationalists and the Stalinsts and radicals absolutely no future. The latter's opportunistically triangular approach to the present bourgeois and petit bourgeois leaderships. This struggle can only be realized in the battle for the ideas of the struggle, the Black Caucus could launch a counter-offensive to the bosses and the government in the campaign for the Labor Party. They could see that the time is ripe for the necessary working class leadership for not only the traditional union movement but Negroes struggles as well. Only the Workers League battles under such a perspective.

On the capitalist will continued divisions in the working class, and their agents in the unions, the anti-war movement, and the Negro struggle, all with bourgeois leadership of one form or another, be it re- formist, nationalist or pacifist, be it in the working class or the struggle of the blacks.

bottle ahead

Facing the working-class division, the anti-war struggle, and the Negro struggle, all with bourgeois leadership of one form or another, be it re- formist, nationalist or pacifist, be it in the working class or the struggle of the blacks.

nauseating

It was a nauseating spectacle. It is quite prob- able that the one thing that had to be avoided was the Black Caucus try to pull all Negroes out of the Convention, but several of the more guilt-ridden white radicals would have committed themselves outside the Ballroom doors in a spectacular display of the curse of their "whiteness". The lead- ing Negro leaders from struggle greeted the supplied the gas and matches to their white "allies".

By a vote of 2,341 for the resolution. The Black Caucus was out to make
The Spartacist League and the Road to Pueblo Revisionism

by Robert Hartley

Former member, Soviet League

The last year and a half the Spartacist group has been trying to distance itself from its past more than any other section of the American labor movement. This is not only a result of the Spartacist League's efforts to establish itself as a political party on a new stage of struggle against capitalism. Instead they were the direct result of Spartacist's rejection and subsequent split with the International Committee of the Fourth International, on which the League is based. The League's break with the International Committee of the Fourth International was the climax of a process which had been developing for a number of years. During this period the League had been consistently growing, and its influence had been expanding, in the United States. The League had also been able to maintain a firm line against the opportunism of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of the United States. However, the League's success in these areas had been offset by the fact that the League had not been able to develop a clear revolutionary program. The League's failure to develop a clear revolutionary program had led to a split with the International Committee of the Fourth International, on which the League was based. The split with the International Committee of the Fourth International had led to the formation of the Spartacist League, which was a small group of revolutionaries who were determined to continue the struggle against capitalism. The Spartacist League was founded on the principles of the Fourth International, and it was committed to the建设 of a world socialist society. The League's split with the International Committee of the Fourth International had been a result of the League's failure to develop a clear revolutionary program. The League's failure to develop a clear revolutionary program had led to the League's split with the International Committee of the Fourth International, on which the League was based. The split with the International Committee of the Fourth International had led to the formation of the Spartacist League, which was a small group of revolutionaries who were determined to continue the struggle against capitalism. The Spartacist League was founded on the principles of the Fourth International, and it was committed to the建设 of a world socialist society.
The Young Worker

STUDENTS AND TEACHERS MUST RUN SCHOOLS

YWL Offers Road Out for San Francisco’s Youth

SAN FRANCISCO—Young people in San Francisco are becoming more and more fed up with the power structure of the city. Why? Because the school, housing, and job situation is under the complete control of people who are either completely unaware of the problems of San Francisco, or else justify them as a handwagon of exploitation politics. After all, about the only thing that government-funded school and job programs have provided are more soft chairs for the soft behinds of more bureaucrats. As usual, the high school and working youth are left no better than before.

The situation in two San Francisco schools, Polytechnic and Mission, clearly demonstrates that the people with the power care nothing for the needs of young people. Education is a necessity no matter what trade or profession is needed, but how can an education be adequate when it is given in cramped, decayed buildings by largely inexperienced teachers? At Poly, for example, no new additions have been made to the buildings in 30 years. It is next to impossible to concentrate upon studies when a constant roar from the streets enters the classroom, since no one has thought it necessary to provide some kind of sound-proofing. For physical education classes, students have to cross a busy street to Golden Gate Park, while swimming requires a 20-block bus ride. Similar conditions are found at Mission, with classrooms and bad facilities. This is just the sort of thing that is provided for working-class youth. Compare these facilities with those provided for the sons of the rich. San Francisco has built in the last four years a high school valued at over $2 million, with the most modern conveniences. It also has the smallest proportion of minority group youth of any school in the city.

When we look at teacher preparation, the situation becomes even worse. Almost invariably the inexperienced are placed first in working-class schools, and in all too many cases these people are soon replaced with a substitute—and then another. This is certainly no way to any sort of decent learning, but then maybe the people who provide the jobs want it that way.

Some students have realized that problems exist and have tried to do something about it. What has happened? The principals (stools of the do-nothing Board of Education) pick them out as “discipline problems!” Perhaps the discipline problem lies in the attitude of the principals rather than that of the students. At Mission, one particularly bad principal was replaced when both teachers and students refused to tolerate him further.

hippy

Unfortunately, many high school youth in San Francisco have lost all hope and have succumbed to the “love everybody” philosophy, which is so much a part of the Haight-Ashbury mythology. This is a tragedy, for, as the situation in the H-A has demonstrated, the hippy culture is one of destructiveness rather than love. It leads on a course of degeneration of both body and mind. Several recent H-A murders indicate that “love” is no longer the password for the LSD and pot fanatics who have discovered that you can’t drop out of this system (in this case the organized police). The only way out is to fight the system by proving its worthlessness.

The hippy idea is a one-way street to nothing, except a padded cell in Napa.

The most dismal sell-out of San Francisco youth has been in the area of jobs. The San Francisco power structure, along with the so-called “Opportunity Programs” have demonstrated their complete lack of concern for the needs of young people. This summer some 15,000 youth went looking for jobs in one working-class district. What were the results told and again? “Come around tomorrow!” When the Mission youth got fed up with promises of more programs and went to see the Mayor, they were put off with promises of more programs which have yet to come into existence. The youth “Opportunity Program” has been even less effective, those jobs that did exist were for the summer only and provided “busy work” instead of training. The most common work assigned was weeding leaves in the park! Again the needs of the youth were ignored, while the bureaucrats swarm more programs whose only result is to give more jobs to bureaucrats.

housing

A major part of the problem facing youth is the scandal of San Francisco housing. Once young people are out on their own and looking for jobs and their own homes, the real vultures, the real estate men swoop down. The newspaper bill in California was the cue for the landlords to raise rents to even more exorbitant heights. In the past two months since the new taxes were put into effect, rents have risen $5 to $10 a month and will probably continue to go up.

Suppose a young worker is too poor to afford these high rents, or belongs to a minority group? Then the only choice is to move into public housing. But San Francisco public housing is more aptly titled a public disgrace. The houses in the “Ghetto in the Sky” are prime examples of government callousness. They are cheaply built of second rate materials, providing little privacy for their occupants and nothing in the way of beauty. And when people read against this sterile and prison atmosphere the government cries “riot!” and the cops move in.

DUBOIS CLUBS CONVENTION REPORT

All these problems hit black youth with double intensity. They are forced to live in the worst slums, take the worst jobs if any jobs are available. (Continued on page 2.)
new york strike

STUDENTS & TEACHERS Must Run School

By Fred Calhoon
NEW YORK CITY—Over 90%, of the 55,000 teachers of the New York City school system have gone out on strike joining the growing number of teachers and other workers who have been forced to take such action due to the deteriorating living conditions and to improve the schools. The Board of Education, representing some of the largest financial interests in the city, has campaigned to keep the schools open urging students to attend school and even seeking to recruit strike breakers among college youth, despite all this effort each day the number of student absences rises. As we go to press the figure exceeds 60%.

The Young Workers League is the only organization in the city which has gone out to the high schools and campaigned for students to support the strike. It has stated to high school students:

"Let there be no mistake, this is just as much an attack on students as it is on the teachers. The City is trying to solve its financial bank-ruptcy by keeping down the wages of city workers and by doing nothing to give you decent schools or a good education. All this, to limit it class size, hire more teachers to continue the ME3 program, the City wants to maintain the rotten conditions, the poor facilities, and the overcrowded classes that youth have put up with for years.

"The City Administration is out to break this strike. To do this, they are already trying to frighten people in the ghettos against the teachers by blaming the teacher's strike for the rotten conditions in the schools.

"The City Administration is controlled by fat bankers whose only interests are to make profits at the expense of workers and youth. And when youth leave school, if they do not go to Vietnam to die, they will face the same exploitation as workers.

"Workers, even on skilled jobs today face the threat of growing unemployment, rising prices and production layoffs. Many young workers have to settle for low wages, and are denied the training to get ahead. To the bosses, the youth are just a source of cheap labor and the worse educated the better. Training schools teach unskilled skills on outdated machinery and there is no assurance of a job when students graduate.

"Inevitably, the UFT and our teachers are forced to fight to improve the quality of education for the current generation and for future generations.

But San Francisco youth are not relying only on the teachers to do this. Like youth throughout the country, they face the draft when they leave school. The future capitalists can give the youth of this city a chance at death in Vietnam.

A branch of the Young Workers League is being formed in San Francisco to give leadership to the struggles of working class youth and students against the conditions of oppression.

"Let there be no mistake about it—it is no matter of reforming this or reforming that. Youth are oppressed just as workers are, by the big business men, the banks, etc. We must form our own mass organizations and struggle for social change in our own terms.

SAN FRANCISCO YOUTH

(Continued from page 1) and go to the worst schools. Everywhere black youth turn, they feel the weight of race oppression combined with the weight of class oppression. San Francisco is the major link between mainland United States and Vietnam. Every day the army rolls in town on the train and onto the boats headed to kill the workers on the other side of the bay. The city is filled with soldiers and sailors either coming in or going to Vietnam, many of them already showing the wounds of war.

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stake for the creation of student and teacher committees to do just that: establish class size and organize the utilization of staff, and would allow the youth to democratically control student affairs like the establishment of rules and their enforcement. Such committees would revise curriculums and chair of textbooks so that working class students see a justifi-
cation of the American Way, and to explain to youth that their problems are not justified by the system, that racism and other forms of discrimination are not inevitable but the products of the bosses. Further, such committees would work with other trade unions in providing realistic apprentice programs at trade schools and would fight for jobs for youth.

No friend of youth

disruption

The UFT's original demand—since modified—for teachers to have the right to suspend students has played a key role in limiting support for the ghettoes and in the union as a whole. The Young Workers Teachers Association, as well as many black and Puerto Rican community groups have come out against the strike on the basis that the union is "racist," and have called on black teachers and parents to keep ghetto schools open.

Undoubtedly, these groups have been provoked by the cynical attitude of the bureaucratic leadership of the UFT, but their actions are unpardonable, and can only be called SCABBING. The idea that the education of black children will be improved by reading a poem by Leroi Jones—the Board of Education is methodically preparing to evict Leroi Jones and ask him to suppress him on the streets.

Teachers must make a choice: will they act as the agents of the bosses against the students or will they stand for the same time acquiescing to a deter-
ioration of conditions in schools; or will they unite with the students and their parents in a fight to improve the lives of themselves and their students?

The question of "discipline" in the schools can never be handled in a progressive way as long as the schools are institu-
tions to suppress working class youth. Many teachers have already seen that there is no other way to improve the schools than for teachers to demand to actually run the schools.
This article will discuss the struggles of American communists from the birth of the Communist Party of the United States of America in 1919 to the formation of the Socialist Workers Party in 1938. These twelve years of struggle define the battle for a new American socialist youth movement and new tactics. The struggle was fought in a new and different way and that difference is what makes the story so interesting and significant.

The Communist Party of the United States of America was formed in 1919 as a response to the banishment of the Bolsheviks from the Russian Revolution. The party was composed of Marxists who had fled Russia to escape the oppression and repression of the czarist government. The party was founded to educate American workers about the need for socialism and to organize them in a revolutionary struggle against capitalism.

The party's first major task was to recruit members and build its organization. The party had a small core of dedicated leaders, but it was up to the individual members to spread the word and bring in new recruits. This was a difficult task, as the party was often met with hostility and discrimination. Many of the party's leaders were arrested and imprisoned, and the party's headquarters were raided and destroyed.

Despite these challenges, the party was able to build a strong base of support. By the time of the 1920s, the party had organized thousands of workers in labor unions and other organizations. The party was also able to win significant victories in the political arena, including the election of two socialist mayors in Chicago and two socialist congressmen.

However, the party's success was short-lived. The Great Depression of the 1930s hit the party hard, and many of its leaders were forced into exile. The party was also split by internal disputes over strategy and tactics, which weakened its ability to organize and fight for social change.

In the end, the party was unable to overcome the challenges it faced. It was absorbed into the Socialist Workers Party in 1944, and its influence waned. But the party's legacy lives on, as its members went on to fight for social justice and equality in the decades that followed.

This article will explore the story of the Communist Party of the United States of America, from its founding to its dissolution, and the lessons that can be learned from its experiences.
THE ROLLING STONES: TUNED-IN MUSCIC, DROPPED-OUT LYRICS

By Marty Jonas

There hasn’t been as exciting music as rock & roll since the big swing bands of our parent’s danced to in the 40′s. The whole, the drive, the absolute nervousness of rock & roll aren’t just a product of the individual minds and instruments of the musicians, though. The Rolling Stones, the Beatles, Chuck Berry, Bob Dylan, all reflect our frantic times. The capitalist system under which we live is in deep crisis—there is war, unemployment, pest strikes, constant struggle all over the world of oppressed against oppressor. In the same way that other youth may express this tension in rock music, we are expressing it in our first rock and roll songs. This is a world which can’t sit still and the youth are expressing it.

When the Stones produced their first single, “The and I Love You,” they were expressing being caught in the same world struggle that means other youth out on demonstrations for more jobs and better schools. But, despite the excitement of rock & roll music, for the most part its excitement re mains right there in the discussion in the living room, in the neighborhood club. It’s as though it was calculated to get nowhere.

sgt. pepper

The music really moves, but the words hold it all back. There are the Beatles in their newest album, Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band, weaving some of the most original and startling musical effects--mysteriously woven into the background of most of their fellow groups. But Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band is a record that can spin with the intricacies and you can wear yourself out dancing to it, but in the end there’s not much beyond this. For harnessing all this great musical power which cannot help but express the mood of our times are lyrics that tell us to turn around. The whole message of Sgt. Pepper is turn on, whether through drugs, love, or dropping-out -- look in yourself for the solution to the crisis our music reflects. This is not surprising in light of the Beatles’ recent conversion to an obscure yoga sect.

motown

Other rock & roll artists oppose their own rough and raucous music with the soft pacifism, Hollywood-type phony-love, phony-love-of-marriage, hippy-ism and eastern religions. Sometimes one can’t help but wonder if the beatniks with their lyrics that are just plain obvious can spin with the war in Viet Nam, but he will just squirm out of his obligation to find some pacifist, or pacifism, begging LBJ, or everybody without himself. The crisis of capitalism in the world just doesn’t stop him, he just retreats into his own room. Middle class youth and other so-called "hippie 'movement" that accompanies it is all dressed up brightly and vibrantly--but in the end is harmless.

reel

Looking for solutions in one’s head is no solution for middle-class or working class youth. This is the road that capitalist society--by which the record industry is a big part--would like the youth to take, in making them harmless. But there’s a solid world out there, with classes struggling every minute, art sometimes comes very directly about this--the songs of Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weil, much folk music, and the occasional rock-and-rol song like “Dead End Street” by the Kinks. The real revolutions takes place right now as well as in the one in the making right here is the American Working class are more exciting material for rock-and-roll than the phony inner-revolution of flower power and turning on.

DUBOIS CLUBS CONVENTION REPORT

by Melody Farrow

The DuBois Clubs of America held its Third National Convention here Sept. 8-10. The entire convention began with the deep crisis that the DuBois Club has been in since its founding convention three years ago. This crisis found its most immediate expression in a national organizational confusion of the sessions. The opening session on Friday night was attended by 300 people but by Sunday night this had dwindled to almost half. Meetings were sometimes over two hours in length and groups drifted continuously back and forth. According to reports from its leaders, the organization has failed to attract working class youth and the number of local clubs has declined over the past year. This organizational confusion is however only the expression of a far deeper political crisis that has been concealed in the main reports. Many youth have come to the DuBois Club because they sincerely wanted to fight capitalism and struggle for a social justice. Yet while the leaders give lip service to the fight against imperialism and discrimination they have no program for a real struggle against it.

Today working class youth are most affected by the de- generation of the DuBois Clubs. They are faced with unemploy- ment or the draft; they must put up with rotting schools which are used to discipline them but offer no decent education. They are largely unmotivated and the tough economic pressures to pay their bills. There’s no longer time to new organize these youth and engage them, together with older workers, in a real political struggle against capitalism.

haff-baked

The DuBois Club does not, and cannot, play this role. Rather than having broken with the system, they offer up half-baked reforms that cannot begin to deal with the problems of working class youth. Instead of redefining struggles against the war they speak of draft resistance and referendums and fight when their members are sent to jail. Rather than dealing with the historic role of the working class and of the necessity for a real political turn to this class, they set up trade union committees. To every political question facing the convention an endless string of committees were pushed as the answer. These organizational maneuvers will only serve to isolate the leadership of the members by involving the youth in meaningless activity. In reality, it will drive the DuBois Club into even greater crisis.

We have a foretaste of this crisis in the issue of black power. The DuBois Club has become the watchdog of all those who give allegiance to the philosophy of black nationalism. Black power advocates such as Julian Levens were given so much attention at the opening night of the convention that the main report had to be cut due to lack of space. Rather than the DuBois Club supports the concept of parallel struggle, i.e., a separate black movement. With such an orientation why should black youth join?

The program of a separate struggle for whites and blacks can only deepen the divisions within the working class, the very divisions that the capitalists use to stay in power. Its reactionary and anti-working class implication have been shown in the recent teachers strike in which Ray Brown and Floyd McKissick openly scabbed against the union.

class

Rather than facing that racism is a necessary condition for the survival of capitalism it is posed as some kind of inherent quality of whites. But history shows that the struggle of white against black but of class against class. The working class can only be united on a class program, one that was the goal the conquest of power by the workers. Negroes are not a nation and have no salvation in self-determination. They are an integral part of the working class and its most exploited sections.

The DuBois Club evades this by claiming that workers are racist in their attitudes. They close their eyes to the tem- mendous labor struggles that are occurring in the working class as the ruling classes launches an open attack on the conditions of the working class through inflation, wage guidelines and anti-strike legislation.

The time is past when these struggles were fought on bread and butter issues. The recent strikes in New York and all over the nation have been political battles against a government that is determined to break the back of the working class. This is the arena and the only arena where the full unity of black and white will be realized. As the DuBois Club, by turning its back on the class struggle, turns its back on the only arena that can produce revolutionary change.

cp

The crisis in DuBois Club cannot be attributed to misguided youth. The answer lies in the role that the Communist Party has played in the political leadership of the organization.

DuBois Club members must understand the history of the Communist Party and the entire history of Marxism. They must understand the role of Trotsky who in 1938 founded the Fourth International and the betrayal of the working class by the Third Interna tional and Communist Party. The Fourth International today stands alone in the struggle against capitalism and Leninism. Only through the Fourth International can the events can the political ques tions facing socialists today be answered.

NEW YORK

Room 8, 243 E. 10 St., N.Y. N.Y., 10003.

TWIN CITIES

Box 14002, University Sta.
Minneapolis Minn. 55404.

SAN FRANCISCO

Box 14002, University Sta.
San Francisco, California, 94122.