



CHALLENGE-DESAFIO

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The Progressive Labor Party and its newspaper, **Challenge**, are dedicated to the U.S. working class and the working class of the entire world—black, Latin, white, Asian and Native American.

The only way our class can ever have a decent life is by overthrowing the bosses' governments and establishing the **DICTATORSHIP OF THE WORKING CLASS**, a system in which the workers rule and the bosses are outlawed.

When this is done, we can build a new society; a society in which working people collectively own the factories and farms: a society of socialism.

Until this is done, the bosses will continue to hold the trump card: their armies, police, and courts. The reforms we win in day-to-day struggles will be whittled away.

Progressive Labor Party members dedicate themselves to serve the people by guiding them to working-class revolution; by building deep ties among the mass of working people in their day-to-day battles; by learning to apply the revolutionary science of Marxism-Leninism—proven in decades of world-wide struggle—to the particular conditions of industrial America.

Our newspaper, **Challenge**, strives to present the unconditional truth of class struggle so our class can learn from experience how to win.

PLP Editorial

Take Back The Unions

The U.S. bourgeoisie's dreamboat is sinking. Its capitalist system stands naked for what it is: a system of enormous profit for the few bosses and impoverishment for the working class.

The weakness of this system is shown by the inability of all the economic wizards, assembled by the Ford-Rockefeller-Kennedy octopus, to come up with a plan to end what they call "stagflation." For the working class, capitalism, fueled by our exploitation, has always been a disaster.

Capitalism, even with its inherent weaknesses, won't go away of its own accord. There are still many props which maintain this vicious system. In the midst of the working class movement stand the labor lieutenants of the capitalist class. The Woodcocks, Wurfs, Meanys, Shankers, and all their local stand-ins help the bosses to accomplish layoffs, speedup, decreases in real wages, and also to promote divisions in our class.

The methods of these traitors are inaction, misleadership, and promoting the bosses' ideas. **To move forward, we must defeat the misleaders and their ideas.**

WOODCOCK MEETS WITH THE BOSSES, NOT THE RANK AND FILE

For example, the U.A.W. nationally has made no attempt to stop layoffs. Instead, they opted for a system of supplementary unemployment benefits. Workers were "guaranteed" 95 per cent of their take home pay when they were laid off. Now hundreds of thousands of unemployed U.A.W. members are on the streets with "sub" pay running out and no jobs on the horizon.

Auto workers should be attacking their bosses. Instead, there's Woodcock on network TV calling for more corporate tax breaks and defending huge auto price hikes as necessary for profits. Instead of rallying the hundreds of thousands of auto workers and their allies in a massive demonstration for jobs or a strike against layoffs, Woodcock has only called for a select hobnob with Ford and Rockefeller.

In New York City, AFSCME's district council leadership headed by Victor Gotbaum out-bossed Mayor Beame in showing how to shaft workers in a municipal budget crisis. First he proposed the mandatory firing of workers over 63 years of age. When this was challenged, Gotbaum had a variation on his theme. This creep suggested that "permanent" civil service workers would be retained but "provisional" workers (those who hadn't passed or been given proper tests) could be fired. Finally the city bosses and this misleader hit upon a

plan to lengthen the summer work week, decrease fringe benefits, and to allow reassignments throughout the civil service structure.

WORKERS NEED TO STRIKE

Municipal workers need to strike the city and demand that funds to balance the city budget be found in the coffers of the bankers, realtors, and bosses. Some 16 per cent of the New York City budget will go to tax free debt service to the bank this year and the assessments of many large corporate real estate holdings are going down. Workers can stop layoffs and legal boondoggles, but sellouts like Gotbaum won't lead such action.

Finally there is the battle between the proponents of layoffs by seniority vs. those who feel layoffs shouldn't reverse affirmative action programs (preferred hiring of minorities and women). Much effort is put in legal struggle by misleaders in the union movement. The fact is that layoffs by seniority or layoffs that maintain the gains of affirmative action are still layoffs and have to be rejected.

RETALIATE—DON'T COLLABORATE

The Progressive Labor Party says that workers have a choice which is not being advanced by the misleaders of the unions. That choice is to act according to our class interest and to reject collaboration. Our program in the unions is:

- Strike against layoffs
- 30 hours work for 40 hours pay coupled with preferential hiring
- smash racism and other bosses' ideas
- build caucuses to win power in the union for the rank and file
- build the Progressive Labor Party.

Many hardships are being thrown on our backs. Union hacks calling for class collaboration won't lessen our problems. The Progressive Labor Party and our class sisters and brothers, here in the U.S. and around the world, are learning important lessons which will enable us to end the oppression by capitalist thieves. **The days of the bosses and their allies are numbered. The future is ours.**

**JOIN THE PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY AND FIGHT BACK!
FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM!**