



# Great Lakes Steel TRIBUNE

ISSUED BY THE GREAT LAKES STEEL UNIT OF THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY OF THE U.S.A.

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DONATION 5¢

## ELECTIONS

Pre-election maneuvering has already begun. Slates are being discussed. The danger in this election, as so many others, is that the issues which face us will be lost in a mess of name calling, individual loyalties, and disunity among us based on nationality.

We believe there is one main issue in this election: Equal Rights for All Workers protected by a fighting local. It is only the company and their stooges who benefit from prejudice and discrimination.

We ask every worker to consider the following demands. We propose every candidate make their position clear on:

1. An end to the ENA. All future contracts be ratified in direct vote by the membership.
2. The right to strike must be included in the contract on a corporation and industry wide basis, as well as locally

3. The right to strike should be extended to grievance procedure, including the right to strike on job classification, upgrading, health and safety, dismissals, and disciplinary actions.

4. No segregation in jobs: FULL plant-wide seniority based on training not testing with no loss of pay to any employee.

5. Full back pay with interest to all those discriminated against, including Negro, Spanish speaking, Appalachian, and women workers.

6. End discrimination against women worker on maternity leave. Full medical coverage for term of leave including continued company payment of Medical and Life Insurance. Leave to extend 1 year after delivery

7. All union officials and standing committees must be elected, including the election of stewards and safety committeemen. No union official should be paid higher than the highest paid worker he or she represents. Abolish the nomination requirements.

8. No change in the dues structure without membership ratification.

9. All contracts and agreements be written in Spanish as well as English.

10. The union must defend the democratic rights of workers in all areas of life. We must support a job for every worker at the expense of the military budget. An end to segregation in housing, jobs and schools. Legally ban the KKK, Nazi Party and other fascist groups from existing in the USNA.



In the next issue of the Great Lakes Steel Tribune we will be discussing each of these points! Let us know what YOU think. All letters will be printed including any and all disagreements.



## SAFETY FIRST?

### Baby Due: Insurance Cancelled!

Jan. 13, 1976

Carolyn Robertson was informed on this date that she no longer is covered by Blue Cross Insurance. The hospital she was to deliver her baby at, on Jan. 31, 1976, informed her on this date about this predicament.

She was told by people in the Insurance Dept. of Great Lakes Steel on her last recall back to work that her Insurance would last until April of 1976.

On reporting for this recall she returned to work with a medical slip saying she could work until Dec. 31, 1975. It was signed by her doctor. Great Lakes Steel's medical department then proceeded to deny her readmittance to her job saying she was far along, regardless of her doctor's statement saying she could work.

The Insurance Dept. then told her that she would be covered by Ins. till April of 1976. \*(They also put that in writing) And explained as far as finance was concerned she could check out the unemployment procedures with the union hall. Which she did.

The union hall explained how she could apply for unemployment and that if she had any problems obtaining it, she could have the unemployment office contact Scotty Clark of the medical dept. at Great Lakes Steel to explain the situation.

Now Miss Robertson has been informed in her last weeks of pregnancy by her hospital that she is not covered by insurance.

She was told by Great Lakes Steel on Jan. 13, 1976 that the person who told her she would be covered to have her baby made a mistake. That in actuality she had been dropped by insurance on Dec. 17, 1975. Until today Miss Robertson had no knowledge of this. Now she has to apply for Medicare to guarantee the birth of her baby in a hospital.

A high lime content mix has been a problem in the Sinter Plant now for over 10 months. (As our safety officials know) Not one TA or regular worker there has not felt the sting of lime biting in around our respirators, wrists or collars, or not gotten blinding chunks in our eyes. And for the unlucky around the grasshopper and hot screens there are the glowing chunks that burn as they stick to the skin.

The day labor pep talk says that safety comes first. We all know better! When the plants running there's no way any safety man could ok working in the blowing dust on the hot screens, etc. without more protection than a respirator. The fairly common accidents resulting from shoveling and deckscraping moving belts, knocks across the face to serious mangling of arms, are just considered "necessary" dangers of doing the job right.

Many workers are in the Sinter Plant as TA's or fairly new employees who will transfer out as soon as possible. Therefore actually getting people together to do something about the horrible conditions is hard. But we all need to realize as long as the company is able to get away with stuff in any department, their opportunities to mess over all of us continues. Only if we are willing to defend the rights of all our union brothers and sisters will we be protected ourselves.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) gives us certain rights, as does our contract. If a job endangers health and safety, ask to be moved to another job or given adequate protection. If refused, ask to see a steward or safetyman. Sometimes people are sent home for standing up for their rights, but if conditions are unsafe, we get paid for lost time.

It's not worth it to risk our lives unnecessarily for GLS. We're just easily replaced numbers. Our safety depends on ourselves and our fellow workers. It's time to take a stand! Attend the next Hanna divisional meeting. Jocco Sturges and Willie Anderson know we've put up with this lime dust long enough! If we work together, things can change!

Send all mail to:  
GLS Tribune  
c/o Emancipation Books  
12024 Linwood  
Detroit, Mich. 48206  
Tel. 868-9214

# SUPPORT BUSSING!

On January 26 Detroit will begin to implement Judge DeMasico's court ordered bussing plan. We must be clear about where we stand.

Bussing itself is not new. We see school busses going through our communities all the time. Why then is bussing such a hot issue now? Why do we see the rise of the KKK, Nazi Party, John Birchers and Breakthrough now?

It is no surprise that this issue comes at a time of economic crisis-unemployment, layoffs, rising taxes and prices. All over the capitalist world there are too many products and not enough people to buy them. The capitalists need war abroad to expand their markets and fascism at home to take away our democratic rights so we don't "protest" too much. It's ok for us to fight each other- the capitalists want to keep us at each others throats so we can't see the real enemy; the capitalist class itself.

It was the sweat of the Negro workers during slavery which pushed this country into the world market place through the export of cotton. From that point on there has been a constant struggle to further the rights of the Negro People. Civil war, civil rights struggles of the 50's and 60's are examples. At GLS the Consent Decree is an example. The battle for bussing is another in this long struggle. No one complained when busses drove rural kids to school. No one complained when busses drove Negro kids from one bad school- past the Anglo American school- to another Negro school. No one complained when bussing was used to further segregation. No- the battle for bussing is a battle for integration!

The potential for the unity of our class is great. But the capitalists must prevent this unity to further their own ends. That is why they unleash the KKK, Nazi Party, and Breakthrough scum on us to mouth their hates and fears. We must drive these scum from our neighborhoods and workplace. We must unite to fight for the just demands of the Negro and Mexican national minorities. An injury to one is an injury to all! We must demand an equal and quality education for all working class children. The Jan. bussing plan doesn't go far enough. But we must support peaceful integration while we fight for the nationalization of education!

END SEGREGATION!

EQUAL AND QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL!



## EQUAL EDUCATION

I sent my child  
to the school down the block  
the teacher called her  
a dirty little wop

I sent my child  
to the school up the hill  
they wouldn't let her in  
'cause we couldn't pay the bill

I sent my child to  
a school accross town  
the KKK tried  
to burn the school down

Walking or riding  
makes no difference to me  
just a good education  
for every family.

March 17, 1976

Dear Executive Board Members,

As a former Chief Steward at Jefferson Assembly Plant represented by the United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, UAW, Local 7, I feel confident in making this appeal to you for assistance and support for a fellow labor movement activist. The life of Bessie Lou Cornett, editor of the HARLAN LABOR NEWS, has been again threatened by the Ku Klux Klan in Harlan County, Kentucky.

Bessie has been a longtime fighter for a decent life for all working people. Born and raised in Harlan, she has been fighting all her life for better working conditions in the coal fields of Appalachia, in the neighborhoods for better housing conditions and decent education and in the struggle for the equality of peoples of all nationalities.

Last summer, Bessie was arrested for allegedly kidnapping the wife of a local Klan leader in Harlan. Telegrams, resolutions, letters of protest flooded into Harlan from all over the country and eventually she was released from jail and cleared of all charges. Having failed to get rid of Bessie Lou Cornett "legally", the Klan has voted to "tar and feather" this courageous woman at the first opportunity they get.

This threat to Bessie's life is not an isolated incident. Here in Detroit this past fall, we have witnessed the burning of crosses on the lawns of residents of the northeast side of the city. One family received a threatening letter from the United Klans of America signed by the Imperial Wizard. These fascist gangs must be stopped.

"I don't want to die, but I won't be intimidated. I won't let the Ku Klux Klan terrorize Harlan County." These words spoken by a young woman in Kentucky must be taken up by us. It is our duty as union leaders to keep Bessie Lou Cornett in Harlan and defeat the Ku Klux Klan.

Please pass a resolution in your union in support of Bessie. Let the Klan know that they cannot murder this courageous fighter, that she not only has support in Harlan, Kentucky but that she has the support of working people across this country.

Send telegrams, resolutions, and letters of protest to:

Governor Julian Carrol  
Governor's Mansion  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Sheriff Billy Williams  
Harlan County Courthouse  
Harlan, Kentucky 40831

Rep. Tim Lee Carter  
88th District  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

Finally, I would like to close by asking if you don't support Bessie, who will?

Sincerely,

*Al Gladysck*  
Al Gladysck

PONTIAC CITIZENS' COALITION ON P.G.H.  
70 WHITTEMORE  
PONTIAC, MICHIGAN 48058

(335-6129)

Dear People of Pontiac,

The Pontiac Citizens' Coalition on Pontiac General Hospital is made up of Latin, Black and White people who live in the city. The Coalition was conceived in response to the long range plan for the hospital as recommended by the hospital administration and its board of trustees. The Coalition believes that what happens to Pontiac General is everybody's business and that all the people in the city have the right to voice their feelings on the hospital issue. We petitioned to have the question of ownership and control put on the ballot. The election will be held on May 18th, 1976.

It is the Coalition's position that it is in the best interest of all of Pontiac's people to retain control of the hospital. We believe it is the responsibility of the city commissioners to appoint an independent research group to discover alternatives to the plan presented by the hospital board. We want to keep our hospital and improve it. The hospital administration and board of trustees are utilizing all of their resources to take our hospital away from us. The only resource we have to protect our most valuable community asset is YOU. Will you help us?

We ask you to fill out the form printed below and send it to our address. We will be contacting you on how and when you can help with the campaign. And remember, a YES vote on May 18th is a vote to keep control over our hospital.

Sincerely,

Coalition Steering Committee

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

What Type of Support Would You be Interested in Providing in the Campaign?

- |                         |                                                                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A. Babysitter _____     | E. Telephone Committee _____                                              |
| B. Transportation _____ | F. Distribute Flyers _____                                                |
| C. Poll Worker _____    | G. Attend home meeting _____                                              |
| D. Door Knocker _____   | H. Financial Support: Amt _____<br>(for publicity, bumper stickers, etc.) |

Please send this and your donations to:  
Pontiac Citizens Coalition on P.G.H.  
70 Whittemore  
Pontiac, Michigan 48058

COALICIÓN DE CIUDADANOS DE PONTIAC PARA EL P.G.H.  
70 WHITTEMORE  
PONTIAC, MICHIGAN 48058

(335-6129)

Querido pueblo de Pontiac:

La Coalición de Ciudadanos de Pontiac para el P.G.H. (Hospital General de Pontiac) está formada tanto de Latino-americanos como de Negros y Blancos - que viven en la ciudad; la Coalición se concibió como una respuesta a el plan de largo alcance que recomendaron la administración y la mesa de directores de el hospital general.

La Coalición tiene la firme creencia, de que lo que le suceda a el hospital general, es asunto que le incumbe a todo el pueblo, y por lo tanto el pueblo en general tiene el derecho de expresar sus sentimientos respecto a este problema. Hemos presentado una petición para que la cuestión de propiedad y control del hospital, se decida por medio de una elección pública; esta elección se llevará acabo el día 18 de mayo de 1976.

La Coalición está firmemente convencida de que es para el bien de todo el pueblo de Pontiac, que la gente retenga control del hospital. Creemos - que es la responsabilidad de los Comisionados de la ciudad, el de nombrar a un grupo de investigadores independientes, para que descubran alternativas a el plan que presentaron los miembros de la junta del hospital. Queremos que el hospital continúe siendo de nosotros y también queremos que el hospital se mejore.

La administración del hospital y su mesa de directores están usando todos sus recursos para quitarnos nuestro hospital.

El unico recurso que nosotros tenemos, para proteger este valioso derecho de la comunidad, es Usted. ¿ QUIERE USTED AYUDARNOS ?

Llene por favor la forma al pie de esta carta, y mándenla a nuestra dirección; mas tarde nos pondremos en comunicación co Usted para explicarle como y cuando puede Usted ayudarnos en nuestra campaña.

Recuerde, votando (yes) sí, el día 18 de mayo, será un voto que tendremos a favor, para matener el control de nuestro hospital.

Sinceramente

El comité director de la Coalición.

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(Si usted quiere registrarse para votar, y si usted necesita transportación, puede llamar ala Oficina de Asuntos Latinos)  
(857-7873)

NOMBRE \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECCIÓN \_\_\_\_\_

Nº DE TEL. \_\_\_\_\_

¿ Como nos puede Usted respaldar en la campaña ?

A.- Cuidado de niños \_\_\_\_\_

E.- Comité telefónico \_\_\_\_\_

B.- Transportando gente \_\_\_\_\_

F.- Repartiendo volantes \_\_\_\_\_

C.- En la mesa electoral \_\_\_\_\_

G.- Atendiendo juntas en casas \_\_\_\_\_

D.- Llendo de puerta en puerta \_\_\_\_\_

H.- Respaldando económicamente  
Cantidad \_\_\_\_\_

(Esto se usará para publicidad como por ejemplo: bumper stickers, etc.)