



# THE HEARTBEAT

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## FIGHT THE POWER!

Management is on the wild again! They tried to intimidate us through certain dimmed-witted security guards and that didn't work. Now they're trying to build cases on us through their "evaluations - work standards plan."

This plan is to go into effect May 1st on a bi-weekly basis. Downriver, Conners, West and Housekeeping and the lab report that it has already started for them. Departments are suppose to issue "evaluations" of all workers who punch the clock with every paycheck. We'll be checked on our "attitude", "appearance", "initiative", "relationship with co-workers", "temperment and emotions".

Sound like growing fascism? It is! Fascism is when the ruling class of the USNA violently and forcefully drive down our living conditions and deprive us of our meager democratic rights. Why? Because they must seek from us the maximum profit that they are losing when countries like Angola, Vietnam and Cuba say, "no more exploitation here!"

Fascism is a violent policy designed to prevent the workers here from fighting against these attacks on our standard of living, working conditions and democratic rights. Fascism is what the ruling class does to get us 1200 workers here to do the job that 2,000 workers are needed to do well and like it or be disciplined.

Who are they to tell us what attitude we should have when they layoff gradually our brothers and sisters (Alonzo, Gaddy, Erma - three in the last month) and they boast that the hospital is now making money. Who are they to tell us our emotions and temperment should be when they build fire-death traps like medical records to work in and then say they're sympathetic? What right do they have to "evaluate" our relations with co-workers when they plant stool pigeons and dividers in our midst? What initiative can they talk about when housekeeping day/afternoons works with half as many people as they use to and when supervisors constantly take up our time "meeting and counselling" telling us to do more or get out!

The Metro nucleus of the CLP joins with every worker here, union or non-union to fight this offensive by management. We will resist everyway possible. Here are some great examples workers are already doing. Certain receptionists are using code names rather than their own to answer the phone. Certain workers are "blue-fluing it." Others are gradually slowing down. The union is flooded with grievances and they keep on coming. No one will meet with any supervisor in a group or alone without a union rep present. Certain workers are trying the silent treatment with management.

What's more, the nucleus and all strong fighters will refuse to be singled out for harassment. No, we will fight this policy. We will fight to have the working people control our own lives, our own wealth and set up our own government in behalf of the needs of the majority of people. With socialism, the workers here would control the hospital and choose their own supervisors. Supervisors would be the best, most honest, dedicated and fair among us. They could be recalled if they did not operate this hospital for the true medical needs of the patients and fairness to the workers. Socialism would insure that the courts, police, and education system that we presently have would be dismantled and rebuilt by us to serve our needs rather a greedy minority's profit and power seeking.

In about two weeks it will be the anniversary of our strike. A strike that inspired us and 1,000's of workers in hospitals and plants throughout the country. Management wants to make sure that that spirit does not rise again, but they cannot prevent it. The CLP nucleus at Metro joins fellow workers in demanding:

- 1) no more layoffs / slow down!
- 2) no evaluations of workers - evaluate the supervisors!
- 3) unity among all workers at the hospital (union and non-union)!
- 4) expose stool pigeons!



# DEFEND BESSIE LOU!

The KKK down in Harlan County, Kentucky has voted to publicly tar and feather Bessie Lou Cornett. In other words the fascist, anti union, anti Negro, anti working class KKK has decided to murder Bessie Lou.

Why? Bessie, a young Anglo American woman born in Harlan has been fighting for a better life for all working people in Harlan for many years. From the struggle for better working and living conditions in the coal fields, better housing, quality education in the neighborhoods to the struggle for equality for Negro National Minorities, Bessie has been involved. Her working class slogan has always been that unity and organization is the keystone for success.

Bessie Lou has encountered the most repression in her attempts to organize and unite the coal miners in Harlan County. Coal mining as you may know is a major industry in Kentucky. It is also a major killer. In the last month 26 miners have lost their lives in mines unfit to work. It is clear from this high murder rate that the coal operators and anti union KKK have the upper hand. This situation must be stopped. The struggle here is one of life or death. The demands of the coal miners for safe coal mining must be met!

Working class fighters like Bessie Lou Cornett must be defended. People like Bessie Lou, people that struggle to unite and defend the working class are a real threat to the KKK. Here at Metro. workers that struggle for unity and organization of all workers are a threat to management. We all know fellow workers that at one time or another or consistently lay it on the line to defend the rights of others. These people as well as Bessie Lou must be protected.

Last summer Bessie Lou was arrested on phoney charges of kidnapping the wives of two Klansmen. She beat those charges only after Harlan County was flooded with thousands of telegrams, resolutions and letters from all over the country protesting her arrest. This same type of mobilization must be done again but this time by double and triple the amount of people. We are proud to report that Local 42 passed a resolution "Demanding that Bessie Lou be protected from the KKK." The working class must not allow Bessie to become another victim of the fascist KKK!

Send letters, resolutions and telegrams to:

Governor Julian Carroll  
Governor's Mansion  
Frankfurt, Kentucky 40601

Sheriff Billy G. Williams  
Harlan County Courthouse  
Harlan, Kentucky 40831

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

Also contact your local Congressmen and Senators, as well as President Ford. If you don't do it, who will?

## LOCAL 42

Wake up everybody! Elections are ahead and Local 42 is trying to slam us again.

1. They voted Gerald Schmidt, a representative from the International, to be a member of Local 42. His goal? Keep the communists and other honest fighters out of the union. He was the one that conducted the fraudulent elections at Deaconess Hospital. Our goal? Kick Gerald Schmidt out. Put honesty in the Local.

2. Mabel and Ruth just got raises of \$1,040.00 a piece for this year. Our goal? Lower the union dues. Kick out Mabel. Fight for unity in the Local.

Thursday, April 1st are nominations and elections for the election committee and nominations for Metro unit officers. Let's get going.

May, are the elections for the officers. Be thinking of who you want. The HEARTBEAT will shortly propose a slate of officers to the members.

In the fall are elections for the Local offices. In the next few months we will also support a slate for this.

COME TO THE UNION MEETING!  
7:30 pm at Trinity Methodist Church  
(corner of Woodward & Buena Vista  
in Highland Park )  
LET'S GET GOING!!!



# Put the CLP on the Ballot

Well over 100 workers in all departments and classifications have signed the petition to get the CLP on the Ballot! This is a good start but there are 1,200 of us, union and non-union here and we at least need the majority of that!

The Communist Labor Party will run a candidate for the state legislature in Michigan, so we here can have a voice and directly raise our demands to the government. We want to tell Milliken to stop the squeeze on Detroit and give us funds for hospitals, schools, housing and street lights. We will tell them to nationalize the energy industries. Take out the profits in gas and utility bills.

We want to tell them not a single worker from Michigan will go to war against Cuba or Angola to insure Henry Ford a factory in Africa. We want to tell them to repeal Public Act 38 - a law that allows public hospitals to be given over to private profit making companies and make health care free and universal for all people. We want to tell them to outlaw the KKK and the Nazi Party that blatantly demonstrate downtown and attack Negro National Minority workers and all workers.

## Rent Strike

Remember our strike here at Metro last April? Of course! Remember the publicity in the papers and on T.V. Not too clearly? That's because the media coverage was less than adequate and quite biased. Well, it is happening again.

In the beginning of February a public housing rent strike officially began in this city and there has been almost no coverage by the news media. Why? Because the media serves the ruling class and when workers and oppressed people stand united to fight for their rights they try to keep it a secret.

Since the erection of these public housing units, the tenants have been faced with increased rent hikes, no maintenance, and dilapidated housing. Since most of the tenants are either on welfare, unemployment insurance or social security, the recent rent hikes of over 100% have greatly cut into the money needed to cloth and feed their families.

We will tell them that not one more factory worker should die or get sick because of the health and safety in the plants and we will tell them to stop governing us for the profits of a handful of capitalist crooks like Nixon, Ford and Rockefeller. We will tell them that we intend to fight to the end until the interests and dreams of all working people for peace, jobs and equality are won and Socialism belongs to us.

Having a representative in the state legislature will obviously not guarantee us these demands. But it will advance our struggle, educate more people and give us a voice we desperately need.

Let's get 100% of all Metro workers to:

**SIGN THE PETITION  
&  
GET THE CLP ON THE BALLOT!**

Why are the rents so high? The rent is super high so that the poor and most helpless people are driven out of public housing. Federal money is matched to the money collected for rent, so the more rent money collected, the more money the federal government will put up. By squeezing for more money, they eventually drive us out and put in folks with higher incomes making everyone happy but the thousands of families with nowhere to go. Unity and withholding the rent is their only weapon.

The rent strike is in full force at Herman Gardens and Smith Holmes and more tenants are joining daily. Parkside, Charles Terrace, Jeffries and Sojourner Truth projects are beginning to join in. Some of their demands are:

1. NO RENT INCREASES - ROLL BACK THE RENT
2. NO RENT UNTIL AN ACCEPTABLE LEASE IS NEGOTIATED
3. NO RENT UNTIL ADEQUATE MAINTENANCE IS PROVIDED
4. NO EVICTIONS - NO COURT COSTS
5. NO WELFARE CUTS

The CLP continues its active support of this important rent strike because we see this as another attempt to put the brunt of the economic crisis on the masses of workers.

**SUPPORT THE PUBLIC HOUSING  
RENT STRIKE & their DEMANDS!**



# THE CLP FIGHTS FOR SOCIALISM!

As you may have heard the Communist Labor Party is now engaged in a campaign to get the Party on the ballot in the State of Michigan. The campaign is being conducted on a state wide basis and all workers are being encouraged to sign our petition.

We of the CLP view this campaign to be of extreme importance. For the last number of years we have seen the motion of the ruling class in this country to inflict more control upon the working class. These controls take many forms, from the anti-labor legislation passed by President Ford to the anti democratic Senate Bill S1, still up for Senate approval. On top of these we find the recent and upcoming social service cutbacks to be the most repressive. The USNA is in an economic crisis and instead of the government trying to figure out how it can help working people (the victims of the crisis) the government is trying to figure out ways to cutback all of it's relief programs.

A crisis such as this is the time when workers need these programs the most. The affects of these cutbacks can be seen everyday at Metro. Sick and needy people being cut from the Medicaid rolls. No coverage for glasses or many of the medicines sold at the Pharmacy. I for one do not like being placed in a work situation where I have to turn sick and needy people away. Why doesn't Mr. Rothman and the State do their own dirty work!

The CLP stands in opposition to such controls and we pose Socialism as the solution to the problems of Capitalism. Under Socialism the control of the plants, hospitals, the control of the entire country would be placed in the hands of the majority (the working class). As it stands now the entire control is in the hands of a few wealthy families and the big corporations.

The basic contradiction of Capitalism is that millions of workers create all the value in this country and receive barely enough to survive in order to return to work the next day. On the other hand the capitalist who does not work but owns

the factories and machines, takes almost all the value created by workers for himself. This contradiction can and will be overcome. The fight for Socialism will be waged by the millions of oppressed workers and their political party.

In the mean time the tasks of the CLP will be to continue to expose the contradictions of Capitalism and make known to the entire working class that there is now a political party of a new type. The CLP is a working class Party struggling to consolidate workers and representing the interests of the working class as a whole.

**FIGHT TO UNDERSTAND AND  
BUILD SOCIALISM!**

**SIGN THE CLP PETITION!**



## FLASH: LAYOFFS IN E.R.

Management just decided to layoff 1½ receptionists in the Emergency Room. They say "non-medical" personnel are not needed. Patients wait 2 to 4 hours in the ER, but they say we are not needed.

What is needed? Kissinger says money for war on Cuba. We say jobs with peace! Who is taking away our jobs? The Cubans? Or the capitalist class?

Its obvious. We will not be fooled into making war on Cuba, Angola, the Soviet Union or any other country. The enemy is here - those that put profits above jobs, above patient care and above the quality of human life.

**WE DEMAND JOBS WITH PEACE!  
NO LAYOFFS IN THE E.R.!**



# Keep DGH Open!

The situation around Detroit General Hospital (DGH) is developing very rapidly. The HEARTBEAT received the following letter and petition from the DETROIT COMMITTEE FOR BETTER HEALTH CARE. We also just received word that the public Common Council hearing on DGH is set for Monday, April 12th at 10:30 a.m. at the City County Building. We urge all workers to sign the following petition, circulate it and send it in or take it down to the public hearing. Remember, DGH, Pontiac General, Highland Park General -- Metro could be next. Attend the public hearing - ask questions - give your support. Call for FREE & UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE FOR ALL!

DETROIT COMMITTEE FOR BETTER HEALTH CARE  
1720 Randolph 44B  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Detroit General Hospital is still known as Receiving Hospital to the thousands of Detroiters who for years have found its doors open when all others have been closed. With the recent medicaid cuts, threatened Blue Cross rate hikes, and continued high unemployment; Detroit General Hospital is needed now more than ever.

Yet, Detroit General is facing a real crisis. It has lost its accreditation (necessary for any hospital to survive) and it faces possible budget cuts. Some people think the answer to DGH's problems is to turn it over to a public, non-profit corporation. No one knows exactly what this means for the patients of DGH or its employees.

Workers at Detroit General Hospital have been trying to find out what is going to happen to the hospital. We have formed the Detroit Committee For Better Health Care. Our goal is to keep DGH open, public and available to all. We also want all necessary steps taken to regain accreditation and to improve the quality of patient care. In working toward our goal, we have petitioned the Common Council for a public hearing on the hospital; to raise the issues and to find answers.

We need your help. We are circulating petitions showing support for the hospital. We want to be able to take thousands of signatures to the public hearing. We need you to participate in the hearing, send letters of support to us and the Common Council, and to help circulate petitions. We don't know exactly what is the date of the hearing yet. Please watch for the announcement in the newspapers or call the Detroit Committee For Better Health Care (834-0134).

SAVE DETROIT GENERAL HOSPITAL is still Thank you for your help, all to the thousands of Detroiters who for years have found its doors open when all others have been closed. With the recent medicaid cuts, threatened Blue Cross rate hikes, and continued high unemployment; Detroit Committee for Better Health Care more than ever.

WE DEMAND THAT DETROIT GENERAL HOSPITAL REMAIN AN OPEN, PUBLIC HOSPITAL. WE FURTHER DEMAND THAT ALL NECESSARY STEPS BE TAKEN TO REGAIN ACCREDITATION AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CARE AT DETROIT GENERAL HOSPITAL.

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