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THE BLACK VOICE

PRINTED BY
THE UNITED BLACK WORKERS
FROM THE
FORD MAHWAH PLANTATION



**HISTORY OF
OUR PEOPLE**

Black

Workers

Of New Jersey

If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. . . . Power concedes nothing without demand. It never did and it never will. Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them, and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blow, or with both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress.

Frederick Douglass, 1857

THE BLACK VOICE

The Black Voice is the information arm of the United Black Workers, an organization of workers at the Ford Mahwah Assembly Plantation, Mahwah, New Jersey. Thanks to the efforts of our members, friends and supporters, The United Black Workers offers The Black Voice as an alternative answer to the New York Daily News, Playboy Magazine or other types of similar reading material workers are forced to read.

The Black Voice was started in 1970. Its purpose, to help educate, expose, inform and even agitate our fellow workers out of a feeling of complacency and frustration. Its further purpose is to assist in dealing realistically with the many problems facing workers on the job, in the community, country and around the world.

We do not profess to be experienced newspapermen and women. We have no degrees in the fields of journalism or printing. We do have a serious commitment to reach, unify and struggle with the working class of men and women wherever they may be. We do see the need for communication for and about workers and their many problems. These problems are daily problems. These problems are not isolated, they affect us all.

The United Black Workers and the Black Voice has dedicated itself to this important task.

Many people in and out of the struggle readily talk and now are writing about the plight of workers. The sweet-heart Marriage between union officials and management, conditions in the factories, mines, steel mills, telephone companies, hospitals, the problems of the farmers and migrant workers and the sanitation workers are each being explored and exposed. Too few have taken it to the next stage or followed through with their editorials with concrete or direct action.

(a) We must organize to take over the union where they are doing nothing.

(b) We must provide goods and services to workers and their families.

(c) There are enough empty buildings and vacant lots which can be purchased for building homes and growing food.

(d) We must Demand workers control in the factories.

(e) We must provide Health Care and Day Care centers for workers and their families.

(f) We must fight with and for our women, for they are an important part of any struggle. They must be in the front ranks, not the rear.

(g) We must fight racism wherever it exists.

(h) We must fight against all unjust wars wherever they may be.

The United Black Workers and the Black Voice are about these goals. This is what we are all about. With workers uniting in small or large groups we can win.

There is also the responsibility of printing the true role of Black and Third World Workers in the building of this country, as well as the true feelings and attitudes of white workers during this time. This will enable us to read the true facts and to also understand the feelings and problems we are faced with as workers today. We shall present a picture of the skilled trades and the problems of the construction workers in addition to many other areas which interest workers and their families.

The Black Voice invites your criticisms, suggestions and comments. We can also use statistics concerning workers, health conditions, corporate set-ups (Ford, General Motors, etc.) and all news of workers in any plant, school, hospital, farm, etc.

"...if you are going to be free, you are going to have to do something about it yourselves, because it is not the nature of a slave master to free slaves."

EDITORIAL

The passenger Department at the Ford Mahwah Plantation hasn't worked a full week since the beginning of the 1974 models. Ford has reduced the number of vendors used, and is making a mad rush to increase profits of the company, in the event of a strike.

Mind you, we are glad for the time off!!! but what does this Ford tactic mean to the consumer? The consumer is the real loser. How? He or she pays 3 to 5 thousand dollars for a new car, and gets a car that is not worth the money because these cars are being made, by the hundreds, with inferior materials.

Countless times, workers are told to put the wrong parts on a car because the right one isn't available. Workers are told to substitute major parts, such as: brakes, tires, axles, steering wheels, windows, the list goes on and on. Parts are taken from trucks and made adaptable to cars. It is common practice at the plant, if a worker runs out of a part which is a particular color, to paint it the color needed, and hope it doesn't peel for a couple of months. For example, when a carpet is damaged, the damaged part is cut out, a piece of scrap is glued in its place, then it is painted to prevent the glue from showing. The company takes the position that, "No one will know the difference."

It is common knowledge and often said, that the formen and workers have a negative attitude about Ford products. Many times, a new car fails the final inspection because of faulty brakes; its pulled to the side for repair, but it is never reinspected to insure the brakes are functioning properly. This operation is done by a machine, which requires too much time. Therefore, it is rarely done over. Workers have gone so far as to assemble an entire car using hand tools; even where government standards require a certain amount of torque on the bolts. (some bolts require 30 or more pounds of pressure before they are secure). Cars assembled in this manner are never inspected to insure safety.

What happens? The consumer buys a car that rattles, the steering wheel is loose, inferior brakes, tires, motor, etc. These parts readily endanger the safety of the consumer.

This year, federal law requires a new seat belt which has to be buckled before the car will start. Many cars are not being tested properly because Ford does not have enough belts in stock. These belts are being repaired outside, and not properly tested. Thus, the consumer may buckle the belt and the car won't start at all because it wasn't installed properly at the factory. Ford's slogan should be: "IT'S NOT HOW GOOD WE BUILD THEM' BUT HOW FAST WE BUILD THEM !!!"

The same situation which exists within the passenger Department, also exists in the Commercial (truck) Department. The lack of concern is widespread in Commercial because this is the money-making department. The phrase 'money-making' simply means compulsory overtime, and six-days-a-week production.

The law at the plant is "KEEP THE LINE RUNNING." When the stock runs out, instead of stopping the line, substitute parts are put on the trucks. Everytime the line stops, someone must answer to the top bosses in Mahwah and Detroit.

Of course, no one will admit a mistake was made in counting the original stock, therefore, the workers are forced to put on the wrong parts, and the consumer is forced to buy an inferior product.

Over the last two years, automation has sprung up in the commercial department. All types of machines exist here with names like, Robots, Monsters, Octopus, etc. These machines are very sensitive; when they break down, it takes time to repair them. However, the line roles on. When a job is missed, it is placed on the side for a repairmen to go over it with no inspector around to make sure its repaired properly. No repairman could ever fix a truck as solid as these new machines. Again, the consumer and the workers are the losers.

Whenever the consumer is unhappy and refuses to buy the product, the workers suffer because we are laid off or penalized when we protest about the conditions under which we are forced to work.

We will continue to fight here in the plant; you, the consumer can help us and yourselves by getting more involved and concerned. In these days of inflation and phases, it is important to be demanding. Hold the automobile industry responsible before you put your dollar down.

**"Unhappy
owners.**

**We don't
want
any."**

-Ford Motor Company

BLACK AND LATIN WORKERS CONFERENCE

The Black and Latin Workers Conference held in Newark, N.J. on July 28th and 29th, 1973, was the first stage of workers in New Jersey coming together.

The results of the two day meeting clearly pointed out to all in attendance that we have a long struggle ahead. There is a definite need for a communication network between community organizations, rank-and-file organizations, progressive organizations, factory workers, farm workers, and concerned people throughout the state.

One important factor which the conference produced was the confusion existing today among so-called progressive organizations and the people (workers) they are trying to lead. Too much theory and not enough practice, as well as an incorrect analysis of workers and what workers are saying.

As a result, progressive groups wind up doing most of the talking, and little listening. Somewhere along the way, the workers are left confused, frustrated, disgusted, and forced to find solutions to their real and pressing problems. Concrete problems such as: job, food and clothing, medical services for their families, and most of all, receiving dignity and respect on the job, in the courts, at the stores, and in their communities.

The U.B.W. does not have the time to sit down with the many progressive organizations, some with good intentions, and debate the correct line, or the National Question at this time.

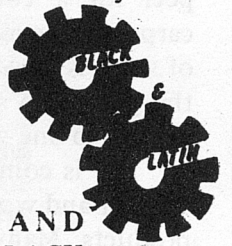
New Jersey being an industrial state, there exist a total lack of information and communication between workers at the point of production, in the fields and struggles in the community.

The B & L W C decreed that this situation must be changed. It will take a serious commitment, education and re-education of us all; patience with those workers who are looking for leadership, but are very cautious where that leadership comes from.

The conference was successful, not in the sense of numbers present, but what was learned by Black and Latin Brothers and Sisters present. Representatives from women's organizations, farm workers groups, community groups, students, prisoners, and progressive organizations, all learned important information from and about each other. We hope this knowledge will help us all to work more effectively with workers and community people at their level to bring about the changes we all are fighting for.

The list of contributors and supporters of the conference is too long to print at this time. However, the United Black Workers would like to publicly thank all who helped make the conference a success, with special appreciation to the following:

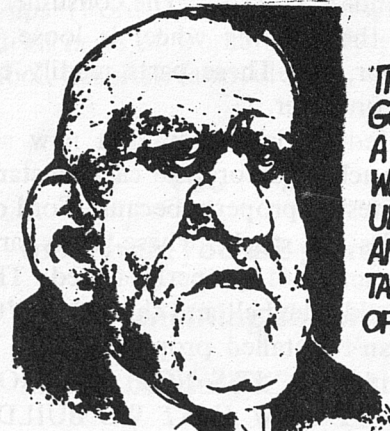
New Jersey Chapter Black Panther Party
Third World Women's Alliance
Livingston College Labor Team
Paul Robeson Center
South Jersey Farm Workers
Community Organizations



WE CALL FOR UNITY AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ALL BLACK AND LATIN WORKERS, IN AND OUT OF THE FACTORIES.

MILITANT, by Langston Hughes

Let all who will
Eat quietly the bread of shame.
I cannot,
Without complaining loud and long,
Tasting its bitterness in my throat,
And feeling to my very soul
It's wrong.
For honest work
You proffer me poor pay,
For honest dreams
Your spit is in my face,
And so my fist is clenched
Today--
To strike your face.



THERE'S GOT TO BE A MORE EFFECTIVE WAY TO PREVENT UNGRATEFUL AMERICANS FROM TAKING ADVANTAGE OF FREE SPEECH!!

SUPPORT

BOB COLLIER? •



AGAIN HIS FREEDOM...

in a sensational propaganda flurry has been jeopardized. Thursday July 5, 1973 the N.Y. POST headline read; 'NAB CHIEF OF THE "BLACK LIBERATION ARMY"'. This headline replaced Watergate and yet it may have been part of what Watergate exposed.

The N.Y. POST on Friday July 6, 1973 printed a retraction which said: "Deny gun link to 'BLA' ". The N.Y. TIMES and the DAILY NEWS stated that police spokesman said investigation had disclosed that Collier was not and never had been a member of that organization.

BOB COLLIER spent more days in jail struggling to reduce the \$35,000 bail. After a week the bail was finally reduced to \$15,000. WHY? Immediately after the arrest community response filled the court with affidavits from lawyers, doctors, administrators, organizations and community people to release Bob Collier.

Two judges, who knew Bob Collier, disqualified themselves and refused to process the case. A third judge refused to accede to demands by the D.A. to set a \$75,000

bail. Furthermore, the judge reviewed the community activities as presented in the affidavits, by community people and said he was very impressed.

WHO IS BOB COLLIER?

IS HE just the 6'0 170 lb. Black man with a family that is active chairman of the Bellevue Hospital Center Community Board; chairman of the Lower East Side Neighborhood Health Council South; member of the Council of Board Chairmen for Municipal Hospitals; consultant and educator? and looked upon as a powerful spokesman in health services

Or IS HE a man that must be harassed because he is the controversial figure because he was convicted for the *alleged* plot to destroy the Statue of Liberty 8 years ago; or because he was a Deputy Minister and U.N. observer for the Black Panther Party who stood trial over a 2½ year period and was acquitted in 90 minutes by the Panther 21 jury?

or IS HE the man that must be repressed because he united youth gangs and redirected them from fatal conflicts to aiding the community; the man that united various ethnic groups to work for a common goal; the man that spoke strongly for more control and public accountability of city, state and federal agencies; the man that refused gratuities and offers of high salaried positions from various agencies.

REMEMBER GEORGE JACKSON



For years George Jackson had been telling people that the officials of the system he would not bend to were trying to kill him. He wasn't afraid of their threats, but he didn't take them lightly, and was always on guard.

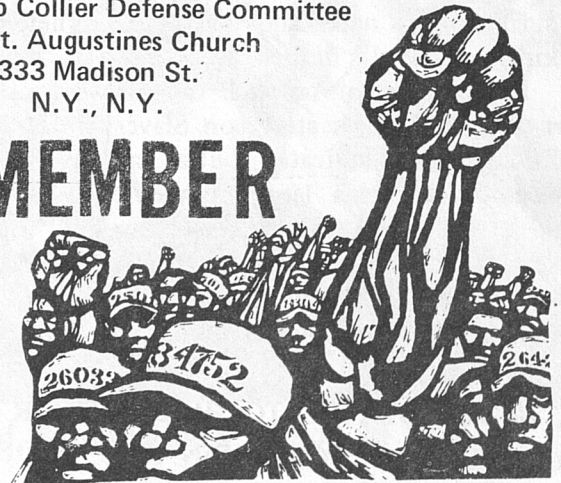
On August 21, 1971, despite all his precautions, and even though his writings had caused people the world over to focus on San Quentin and the American prison system, the guards carried out their threat to kill George Jackson.

Please contribute

to defend this man in his legal defense.

Send to: Bob Collier Defense Committee
c/o St. Augustines Church
333 Madison St.
N.Y., N.Y.

REMEMBER



ATTICA - 9/13/71

HISTORY OF

The Black Worker In New Jersey By The United Black Workers PART I

Black workers have played an essential role in the building of New Jersey's economic and social institutions and the accumulation of its wealth. This was true from the very beginning of the areas history; The colony of New Jersey gained its wealth by plantation farming and the making of iron. Wealth accumulation continued during the growth of the leather industries in pre-civil war Newark, and afterwards in the shipping industry along the docks of Hudson County. Blacks during the 20th century played a vital part in building these industries. They also made substantial contributions to the growth of the textile industry in Paterson and Passaic. Black craftsmen, who had always existed in the state became more and more recognized. Blacks were invited to come to New Jersey Defense & Government Industries in World War II.

Today they form a solid minority in most of New Jersey Manufacturing operations particularly in chemicals and electronics.

While making their contributions to industrial development, however, blacks were more aware than most of the exploited conditions of all workers in American society. During the 18th Century, three fourths of New Jersey Blacks were slaves. As slaves, they organized numerous rebellions against this exploitation, burning barns in the Hackensack Valley, for example. In 1741, two slaves were executed in Bergen County for this particular activity, and others were later burned at the stake for similar acts of insubordination.

After 1804, slavery was supposedly eliminated in New Jersey. Many free blacks found themselves in high demand because of the need for an industrial workforce. But soon they discovered the sporadic nature and insecurity of this need, and they began to help organize working class revolts in the state.

Blacks brought to such organization substantial labor skills. Cooley's study on Slavery in New Jersey published in 1896 indicated that as early as 1708, Blacks were employed in a large number of skilled trades, including miners, iron makers, saw mill operators, carpenters, ship construction, wheelwrights, container (cask) makers; tanners, shoemakers, millers, bakers, and mechanics. A common advertisement in print or public place read:

**SIX NEGRO SLAVES TO HIRE OUT OR SELL
WHO ARE GOOD FORGEMEN AND UNDERSTAND
THE MAKING OF IRON WELL**



IN PURSUIT OF A LABORER. GIVING HOUNDS
THE SCENT

There was a widespread use of Negro slaves and freemen in the ironworks of North Jersey, including the most skilled positions. At least 500 slaves lived in Bergen County at the time, some also working for the plantations owned by the reactionary Dutch farmers. However, the greatest single employer of Blacks was Charles Read, an ironmaster in Burlington County.

At least 500 slaves also lived in Middlesex and another 500 in Monmouth Counties, and apparently these Blacks instilled great fear among the farmers and ironmasters who controlled state politics: In 1780, the legislature forbade slaves to enter the Revolutionary War. This didn't deter the slaves, however. A Newark slave named Cudjo fought at the Monmouth Battlefield in June, 1778 and elsewhere, and gained freedom and property for his valor. The black Cato was recognized by the New Jersey legislature in 1789 for making a great contribution to the war effort.

By 1790, there were 14,185 Blacks officially registered by the Federal Census as living in New Jersey. This constituted 7.7% of the population, and the real figures would probably make it much higher. Slaves continued to arrive and be sold at the large auction yards in Perth Amboy, in spite of the opposition of the Quakers. These blacks quickly acquired skills as boatmen and stage drivers as well as the craft skills listed above. They also began to perform medical services for whites along the Delaware and Raritan rivers. (They were believed to be free from cholera). In 1804, free blacks had the right to vote in New Jersey, as did women. The women supposedly got in a squabble in 1807 over where the Newark-Elizabethtown city hall was to be located, and the legislature used it as an excuse to remove franchise from both groups.

Black & Latin Workers

SEABROOK FARM

We'll bet you this is a chapter in New Jersey history you don't get to hear about in high school history of civics classes. Back in 1934, right after the "Great Depression" had begun, 250 members of the agricultural and Cannery Workers Union, which had been organized by the Communist Party of New Jersey, struck Seabrook Farms, Inc., the biggest "farm Factory" operation in the State, and won a wage of 30 cents per hour for men, and 25 cents for women.

A few months later Mr. Seabrook, claiming he'd go broke under the new contract, announced a policy of wage cuts and layoffs. A new strike was called. The union organized small farmers into a United Farmers League, and set up unemployed councils in local towns to prevent strike-breaking activities, while Seabrook proceeded to "red bait" the workers in full-page ads in the Bridgeton Evening News.

Violence began almost at once. The Union and Seabrook was importing professional strikebreakers, while the owner said the strike was dominated by foreign Communist agitators from New York City. Seabrook set up a vigilante group of the bigger farmers in Cumberland County. On July 6, 1934, there was a battle royal between pickets and police, which ended with a barrage of tear gas. The county sheriff deputized 27 men from the big farmer's vigilante committee, and a round-up of strike leaders began. Despite these arrests, the strike was settled on the terms previously agreed to.

In response to the settlement, local businessmen announced a long-term drive to "prevent Communist from interfering with organized labor." In Briggeton, the city council passed an ordinance forbidding unlicensed meetings, and police permits were required for all public meetings, even those held in a home. This attack helped unify labor groups to defend the strikers who had been arrested during the past two strikes, and their pressure succeeded in getting charges against most of the strikers dropped. Only 2 people out of 54 arrested over eight-month period ever served time in jail.

The communist Party abandoned its union in 1935, and the A.F. of L. took over unionism in South Jersey. The New Jersey Federation of Labor began a big drive among agricultural workers that year but the new locals it organized never represented a high proportion of farm workers. They were more effective in organizing the unemployed, who formed the bulk of day laborers bussed out from Philadelphia and Camden. In May, 1936, these farm workers and unemployed unions led a mass State-Wide hunger march to Trenton to protest a cut in relief appropriations.

Of New Jersey

When the Congress of Industrial Organizations (C.I.O.) was set up in 1937, most of the agricultural unions joined, forming the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America (UCAPAWA). Organizing meetings were held in Marlton, Glassboro, Bridgeton, Swedesboro, Newtonville, and Freehold. These efforts bogged down, however, as the major farm owners began to import Southern Blacks to replace the unionized local workers at lower wages. The bosses had once again succeeded in playing one group of workers against another, resulting in lower wages for all, and the virtual demise of the union.

Today many of the conditions prevailing in South Jersey fields forty years ago still exist. A labor contracting or "pardone" system, where growers pay a flat fee to a boss who recruits day laborers and transports them in ramshackle busses from Philadelphia and Camden slums to Jersey fields, to work at subsistence wages under miserable sanitation conditions, still continues. If the worker happens to be receiving public assistance, as many such workers do, the day's wages are deducted from the bi-monthly relief payments. Many of the workers are Women and Teen-Agers, generally Blacks and Puerto Ricans.



Meeting of Farmworkers' Union in 1936.

Black

Workers

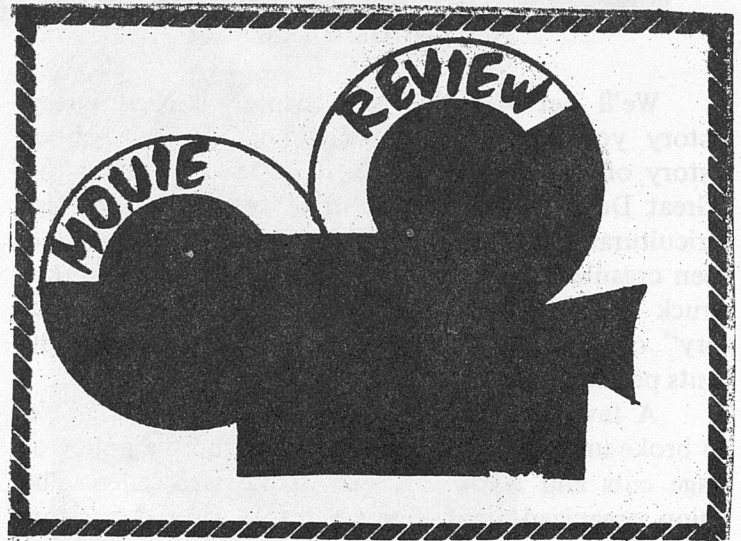
Of New Jersey

The Blacks maintained resilience. By 1814, there were about 75 free black taxpayers with businesses of their own in Newark alone. Pierson's Directory of Newark, published in the 1830's, lists such Black teachers as Henry Drayton, the Barber William Green, blacksmiths John Harris and John Riker, carpenters Abraham King, Henry Ogden and Elija Smith. John O'Fake owned a fashionable sea-food restaurant near the Eagle Hotel on Broad Street. Blacks conducted public concerts in "popular Negro Music" in Newark's Washington Hall in 1844.

But the lessons of slavery and rebellion prevented the Black Nation from accepting the tokens of white society. A group of Black Episcopalians broke with their congregation and set up a church on High Street in Newark to which the principal of the exclusive Newark Academy gave his services. Peter Johnson and Henry Drayton, later joined by the noted Samuel Cornish organized the Anti-slavery Society in Newark in 1834. This group helped to organize the last and most difficult link in the underground railroad: New Brunswick and across the Raritan. Many Southern slavecatchers would wait there and take advantage of the railroad bottleneck, so the group invented a system of river skiffs.

The irony was that while the free Blacks of Newark and New Jersey were using their organizational skills to fight slavery, they were being forced by their own work to support it: a large number of industries in the state were oriented to markets in the South. Newark itself sold most of its clothing, shoes, carriages, and saddles to the slave states, and was even known as "The Southern Workshop." In fact, in 1860 New Jersey politicians seriously considered voting to join the Confederacy. New Jersey was the only northern state to contemplate such an action, and it was, among other reasons, the activity Black workers here that prevented it.

The late 1800s was a period of great upheaval for New Jersey Blacks. At times welcomed, at times ostracized by various segments of the incipient union movement, they continued to struggle for justice midst the oppressive conditions of Northern industrialization.



STATE OF SEIGE

By Robert N. Taylor (AANS) - Without much fanfare and publicity, there's a movie currently being shown in several of this country's major cities that Blacks should see.

It was banned from the government-built John F. Kennedy Cultural Center in Washington, D.C., seldom is it advertised on television, and unlike "Super Fly," "Lady Sings the Blues" and "Sounder," you will not hear any mention of it on soul radio stations.

The movie is "State of Siege", and it is about revolution.

More specifically, the movie, as one reviewer termed it, is a "timely, horrifying political probe and revelation" of how the United States government acts to suppress political dissent and stifle revolutionary movements in Latin America.

This brilliantly, highly factual Costa-Gavras film is a semi-documentary of the kidnapping and eventual assassination of an American official who fronts as a technical expert helping underdeveloped countries.

But, his primary function is training and channeling American assistance to the army and police in these countries so they may better suppress dissent and social agitation.

"State of Siege" reveals how the United States, in order to protect the investments of large American corporations and stop what it views as a threat of socialist-backed liberation movements (Vietnam is another example), has allied itself with some of the most dictatorial and fascist governments in South America.

The part of the American official is played by Yves Montand.

He displays the belief of many American officials that they are right when they help other governments to stifle dissent through murder and torture simply because the dissidents may wish to establish a socialist government.

The movie centers around the activities of the urban guerrillas - the Tupamaros - in Uruguay.

Blacks should be seeing this film of how the U.S. government operates internationally. But presently, they are not.

Viewing the film in Washington, D.C. (75 percent Black), only eight blacks were counted out of an audience of nearly 200.

The percentage of Blacks in the audience is reportedly the same in New York where "The Mack", meanwhile, the movie of a Black pimp, is packing houses.

.to be con't

THE AFRICAN WORLD

"WHAT IF CHRYSLER CALLED A SATURDAY AND NOBODY CAME?" DETROIT AUTO WORKERS PROTEST FORCED OVERTIME

DETROIT (LNS)—On Friday June 15, the day shift production force of Dodge Truck found leaflets scattered around the plant signed by "one pissed-off worker," who complained "what the hell happened to the 40-hour week," and exhorted, "TAKE SATURDAY OFF!"

The truck assembly plant, which builds pick-ups and mobile home frames, was the scene of several walkouts in different departments during the previous week. One walkout by repairmen shut down the whole evening shift on Thursday.

Oppressive heat all week and continuous overtime made the leaflet's suggestion, "What if Chrysler gave a Saturday and nobody came?" seem like an appealing idea. And enough workers, Chrysler won't say how many, acted on it.

The Saturday day shift had to be sent home because there was "not enough manpower, baby, not enough manpower," as one harried foreman screamed at a worker who called to report he wouldn't be in.

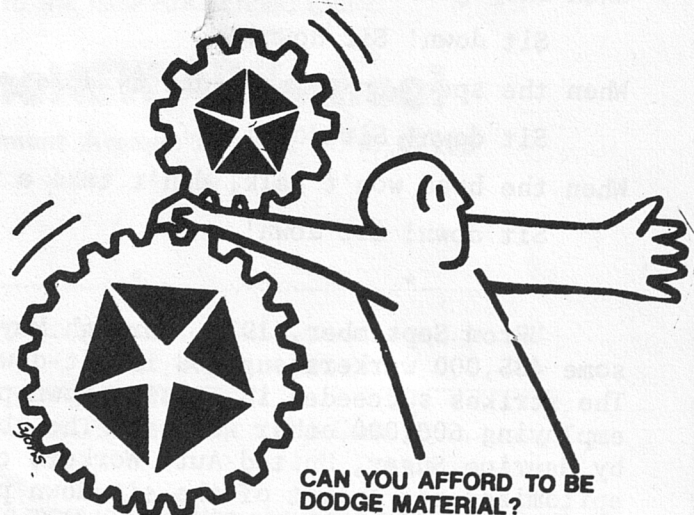
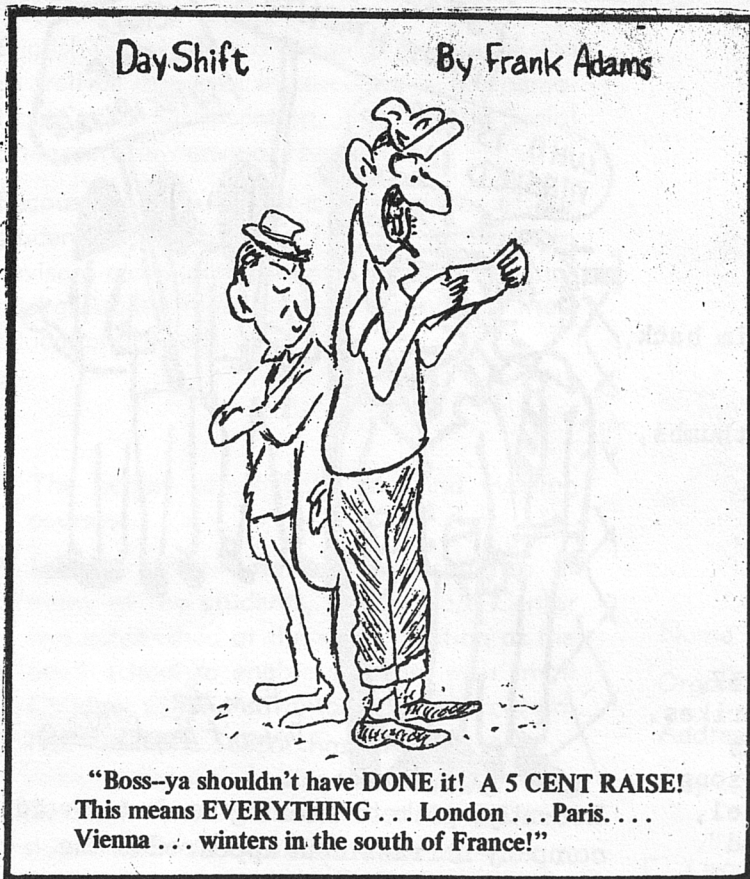
The Fifth Estate, Detroit's alternative paper, talked to the "pissed-off worker" who published the leaflet. "It was a small act of resistance," he said, "for those of us who took Saturday off and took the risk of getting disciplined."

"I've sold the past year of my life to Chrysler for \$10,000 and it hasn't been worth it. But on Saturday when so many of us stayed home and shut the plant down we made a very definite point about how much we hate this forced overtime.

"That stunt cost Chrysler maybe a couple hundred thousand dollars—they lost a whole day of production (no trucks or mobile homes to sell) and according to the contract, they had to pay every worker who showed up for four hours, whether they sent him home or not." By one informal count, about 2,000 of the shift's 5,000 workers showed up.

"Like the leaflet said, my free time is worth more to me than Chrysler could ever pay for it. A lot of pissed-off auto workers have just about had it."

[Thanks to *The Fifth Estate* for this short.]



Black Workers Take The Lead

The recent two-man shutdown of a critical assembly line at Chrysler Corp.'s Jefferson plant in Detroit was more than just an isolated incident caused by two dissatisfied Blacks.

It was a bold attempt by 25-year-old Isaac Shorter and his 22-year-old roommate, co-worker Larry Carter, to dramatize the pitiful working conditions in a modern-day plant.

"I stay in the plant, even though it's not really a good place to work, because I want to continue to challenge the company. I would rather fight within the system than from without it," said Shorter who added that he and Carter have studied Mao Tse-tung, Kwame Nkrumah, and Karl Marx extensively.

"Mao said to deal with the principle aspects of a problem first," Shorter continued.

With that kind of philosophical urging, Shorter and Carter locked themselves up in the power cage of the Chrysler Imperial plant for 13 and a half hours. Shorter shut off the power for the line that carried the body shells by pushing the main button.

"We lost the production of about 950 cars that day," a company spokesman told JET. Shorter and Carter estimate that this cost the plant over \$1 million for the day.



Employees carry Shorter and Carter on their shoulders following shutdown at Chrysler plant in Detroit.

The two welders, who earn almost \$4.50 an hour, staged their demonstration to force Chrysler to fire their supervisor of two months, 32-year-old Thomas Woolsey. To them, he is a "slave driver."

Chrysler not only fired Woolsey, following an investigation of charges from Shorter, Carter and other workers proved to be substantial, but they agreed not to reprimand the two activists. "Already, however, they're trying to get me to change my job," Shorter said. "But I'm not going to do it."

"They're not going to be able to break us up," added Carter.

As the two see it, "we're in a job that helps carry on the economy," Shorter stressed.

"There are rats as big as cats in here. It rains in the plant and the workers are overworked," Carter chimed in.

For these reasons, Carter and Shorter will lead an effort to overtake the local United Auto Workers union at their plant and begin a stronger employe group.

"Whites will go along with us, too," they explained. "We outnumber them."

When they tie the can to a union man,
Sit down! Sit down!
When they give him the sack, they'll take him back,
Sit down! Sit down!
When the speed-up comes, just twiddle your thumbs,
Sit down! Sit down!
When the boss won't talk, don't take a walk,
Sit down! Sit down!

* * *

"From September, 1936, through May, 1937, some 485,000 workers engaged in sit-down strikes. The strikes succeeded in closing down plants employing 600,000 other workers. The above song by Maurice Sugar, United Auto Workers counsel, epitomized the spirit of the sit-down period"

from Labor's Untold Story, by Richard Boyer and Herbert Morais.



Recently, pickets wearing hoods to avoid company harrassment appeared at the gates at Lordstown protesting conditions inside the plants, and shut down production for a day.

The United Black Workers are based in Newark. We work in the community and are concerned about its problems, its people, and its progress. This is the first of many articles which will be dealing with Newark.

NEWARK—
 "What's Going On?"

the NEW ARK school

3 Belmont Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07103

WHAT THE NEW ARK SCHOOL IS ABOUT

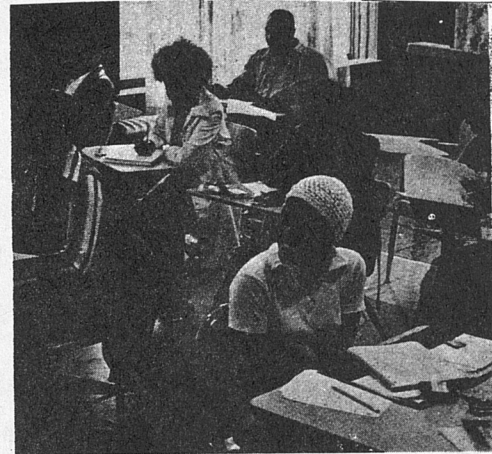
The New Ark School was established in July, 1969 to assist Newark residents without High School Diplomas to obtain High School Equivalency Certificates.

The curriculum includes special emphasis on English Grammar and Reading Comprehension as well as intensive instructions in Mathematics, Consumer Education, Natural and Social Sciences and Personal Hygiene.

Because of the unusual characteristics of our student body, the School found it necessary to devise a curriculum program to suit the social backgrounds of the students as well as their educational needs.

- * The School offers both day and evening courses.
- * Because of the family responsibilities of many of the students, a Day Care Center was established at the same location as the adult school to enable students with small Children to take advantage of the program.
- * The New Ark School has, in its 2½ years existence, serviced over 3,000 residents and graduated over 150 students with General Education Diplomas while raising the education level of other students, two or more grades.

THE NEW ARK SCHOOL "The Complete Learning Experience"



New Ark School students come from all walks of life, parolees, house-wives, welfare recipients, returning Viet Nam Veterans and many others seeking to develop their individual skills and become active participants in the building of a better community.

FUTURE GOALS

- * The expansion of curriculum in the areas of vocational and technical training.
- * The introduction of a new type of Educational Residential Home program for delinquent boys and girls remanded to the school by the courts.
- * Expanded Day Care facilities for children of low income working parents.

If you are interested in what is going on at the New Ark School and would like more information or if you would like to come in for a visit, please complete our form card and mail in to the New Ark School, today.

theNEW ARKschool

3 Belmont Avenue, Newark, N. J. 07103

Name

Organization

Address

City..... State..... Zip Code.....

- I would like more information about the New Ark School
- I would like to make an appointment for a visit.

UNITED BLACK WORKERS:

What we believe

We hereby state that as oppressed workers here at the Mahwah Plantation (Ford Plant) we are not bound by any constitution, contracts, agreements, known or unknown, by-laws or company policies agreed upon by management and the U.A.W. that are racist or tend to deprive Black, Third World and all oppressed workers of their basic constitutional and moral rights. These rights being human dignity, health and safety, better working conditions, and equal job opportunities.

We further state it is our right as workers to demand that both labor and management make use of large portions of the monies gained from our labors to improve the living, educational and health conditions in our communities and that these monies be placed under the control of the communities with no strings attached.

To obtain these rights the U.B.W. are committed to organize, agitate, expose, inform and use all means at our disposal, not settling for anything short of victory.

We further state that we are not bound to respect, obey or follow the leadership of any plant manager, supervisor, union official or any of their underlings who negate any claim they might have for these rights when they place personal ambition self interest, profit and property rights over the human rights of workers.

The factories belong to the people and we workers are the people.

WHAT WE ARE FIGHTING FOR

1. End of Ford Motor Company paying union officials' salaries.
2. End of racism, exploitation and oppression of all workers.
3. Transportation provided for workers who must travel long distances back and forth to work. Many cannot afford to buy a car and must depend upon car pools.
4. Waiver of 90 day eligibility for Viet Nam veterans. Make them eligible as of the first day on the job.
5. A complete revision of grievance procedures.
6. Mandatory medical check up every three months for all workers who paint, spray, grind lead or metal, welders, drivers and all workers who are exposed to the deadly pollution which fills the air throughout this plant.
7. End of compulsory overtime.
8. End of line speed-up.
9. End of white skin privilege.
10. Mandatory printing in Spanish and Creole of all bulletins, pamphlets and job applications put out by Ford Motor Company and the U.A.W.
11. To get more Black and Third World workers in to skilled trades many already qualify but racism is keeping them out. A strong and effective apprenticeship program to prepare young Black and Third World workers for skilled trades.
12. Mandatory English classes in plant for non-English speaking or reading workers.
13. Ford Motor Company to announce a policy of complete disengagement from South Africa since all Americans doing business in South Africa reinforce that racist system and its government.

**WORKERS HOW YOU CAN HELP
TO KEEP THIS PAPER STRONG
AND GROWING.**

**SUBSCRIBE TO !!!
THE BLACK VOICE**



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SEND TO: The Black Voice
United Black Workers
Box 1855
Newark, N.J. 07101

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