

BIG IMPERIALIST UNIONS

The Pacific Tribune, official organ of the Communist Party on Canada's west coast, carried an article in its December 16th, 1966 edition entitled "Mexican Workers Join World Claim of Auto Councils". According to the article, written by William Allan of Detroit, the Mexican workers are the second of such National Auto Workers Councils to be formed, the first being in Japan. The article also states that an attempt to set up a British Auto Workers Council is "in the works".

These World Auto Councils are part of the A.F.L.-C.I.O. dominated International Metal Workers Federation. Walter Reuther, President of the United Auto Workers A.F.L.-C.I.O. is also head of the Automotive department of the I.M.F. Walter along with his brother, Victor, who is the head of International Affairs in the U.A.W., and a number of other leading bureaucrats in the A.F.L.-C.I.O., were given the task of selling the benefits of International Unionism to a somewhat leary Mexican working class. Victor, in an attempt to discredit Mexican auto workers who accused the U.A.W. of trying to take over the Mexican Auto Unions, used an argument that has been used many times by defenders of U.S. domination of our Canadian unions. This argument usually goes as follows and we quote Victor Reuther: "organization of a world wide solidarity program for auto workers is a necessity because of the international concentration of the automobile industry." What Reuther failed to say in this choice and overused quote is that the U.S. Imperialist ruling class which controls over 55 percent of the world's natural resources, must control the workers' organizations in the nations that they exploit. This is true in all fields where U.S. Imperialism exploits the resources and people of the world, but particularly true of the giant U.S. automotive industry that has grown extremely large and powerful.

Canadian unions suffer more from U.S. International domination than any other nation in the world. We warn Mexican workers to beware of U.S. Imperialist unions baring gifts.

Canadian workers are growing to a new awareness of the fact that these so-called "International unions" must be smashed and a nationally independent trade union movement that truly represents the aspirations of the Canadian working class built in its place.

This article appearing in the Pacific Tribune is no isolated incident. A small but significant item was uncovered in the November issue of the Western Pulp and Paper Worker, official organ of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers in B.C.

In this issue we found a picture of well known Communist Party member, George McKnight, speaking at a recent B.C. Federation of Labour convention. Under the picture of McKnight was the caption; 'Employers are not afraid of maple leaves says McKnight' he went on to say "he would like to see one union in the lumber industry and that workers from California to Alaska should be united".

McKnight is obviously speaking for the Communist Party of Canada when he advocates these big Imperialist unions, just as the article in the Pacific Tribune supporting the U.A.W. attempts to gain control over the Mexican auto workers is advocating this same policy.

We can expect more of the same from these revisionists who have substituted the militant struggle of fighting for the working class with a philosophy of tail ending after this or that bureaucrat and giving up the philosophy of revolutionary struggle for the philosophy of struggling on ones knees.