PHILADELPHIA, October 31—When the kkkops fired 14 shots and murdered our class brother Walter Wallace Jr., over a dozen workers answered the Progressive Labor Party’s call to bring solidarity to the masses of protesters here. This action reaffirmed the necessity of multiracial unity and international communist politics as a pivotal force for smashing racist terror. In PLP, we fight to win ourselves and the working class to build class consciousness through the lessons learned from participating in antiracist working class uprisings.

While the bosses’ media aggressively promotes voting, politics based on identity, and racist divisions workers in Philly fought back against the racist murder-by-kkkop of 27-year-old Walter. Suffering from a mental episode, he needed medical workers, not the Klan-in-Blue. This, along with the intensifying racist conditions in Philadelphia, sparked a rebellion ending in the destruction of the bosses’ property.

Days before the election, presidential candidate Jim Crow Joe Biden turned his back on the masses in Philly when asked about his thoughts on looting at the nearby Walmart (NPR, 10/28). Communists say workers’ actions are a reaction to the looting or violence that the ruling class inflicts on the international working class every day. Rightfully so, during the fiercest nights of the uprisings workers ripped down Biden signs making the connection that capitalist democracy cannot challenge police terror.

From Nigeria to Philadelphia, Black workers around the world are leading the fight of the international working class to make the link between racist police terror and capitalism. This revolutionary working class impulse will be attacked by one set of bosses against another unless this fight to smash the bosses’ imperialist, militarized policing is transformed into an international working class fight for communism.

From Philadelphia to Minneapolis, Black, Latin, Asian, and white working-class youth are reminding us that change happens in the streets, not in the bosses’ ballots. Our main goals: build a militant antiracist movement armed with multiracial unity and Black working-class leadership. Join PLP to fight for a communist world where worker’s lives, not profits, matter.

Continued on page 4
The U.S. presidential election—still undecided as we go to press—is exposing the chaos, decay, and decline of the U.S. ruling class for all the world to see. As arch-racists Donald Trump and Joe Biden jockey for power on behalf of the capitalists’ two warring camps, and vigilante “poll watchers” storm the counting center in Detroit, the end game isn’t likely to be pretty. The world has changed since 2000, when the Democrats gave up on Al Gore and both parties still played for the same team. The stakes are much higher. The future of U.S. capitalism, the legitimacy of its democracy, the fate of the liberal world order—all may hang in the balance.

The U.S. empire is in free fall. As the pandemic rages unchecked in the U.S. and much of Europe, imperialist rival China, already the world’s largest economy, is gaining ground by the day. The isolationist domestic energy bosses—led by the Koch and Mercer families, with Trump as their pathological front man—have hijacked republican Party and its base of white racists and nationalist thugs. The liberal finance capital globalists—the blood-stained bosses who have ruled the roost since World War II—are on the ropes. Which makes them even more dangerous than before.

But while we can’t predict the final outcome of the capitalists’ election charade, there is much we do know: We know that capitalism breeds alienation. Despite a record-breaking election turnout, roughly one of three eligible voters—about 80 million workers—decided not to vote (USA Today, 11/3). Millions more went to the polls holding their noses, out of fear and loathing of the candidates.

Who Writes for CHALLENGE?

CHALLENGE is the work of many. We are a collective of socialists and workers who came together to build the movement and fight for a world in which workers need and can build a new society of their own making. We are committed to the principles of dialectical materialism to understand, analyze and shape the world to meet our needs and aspirations.

Who Writes for CHALLENGE?

CHALLENGE is for the working class, producers of all the world. We are committed to the principles of dialectical materialism to understand, analyze and shape the world to meet our needs and aspirations.

It’s CAPITALISM

U.S. capitalism still in decay; workers need communism
Los Angeles, October 17—Dozens of workers militantly took to the streets to protest the racist police murder of David Flores by killer cops Andrew Do and Bryan Tahuite of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). In a magnificent show of solidarity, four other families of workers who have been murdered by these killers, came out to speak and support following the strong leadership of working-class women.

In the two days before our rally and march, the LAPD and the LA Sheriff’s Department each killed two more workers. Despite massive multi-racial marches against racist cop terror in the LA area all summer, these ruling class-serving thugs continue to brutalize our class. Mass anti-racist actions are inspiring and essential. But, without a revolutionary communist outlook and plan for taking down and smashing the capitalist system itself, we will never achieve true justice for our class. The Progressive Labor Party (PLP) aspires to do just that!

Families, workers, PLPers fight for Flores to build antiracist movement

David Flores was the first person in his family to graduate high school and go on to college. He worked two construction jobs to support his two sons. Like many other workers, David’s children were his inspiration and the reason he struggled so hard to make ends meet. His mother, Teresa, has taken up the reason he struggled so hard to make ends meet.

Our protest began at the corner near where kkops murdered David back on April 22, 2019. Workers warmly received us in this mostly Black and Latin neighborhood. As we rallied, passing cars slowed down to listen to our speeches, honked, and took copies of our flyer and CHALLENGE.

After our rally, about 30 of us began our march and caravan to the Southeast Station. As we approached, three kkops approached us and tried to shut us down. However, a swarm of enraged and loud family members, PLPers, and protestors quickly surrounded the kkops. Within minutes, they made a tactical retreat behind the automatic gate of their parking lot.

As we blocked the gate with our numbers, the cops frequently warned us in English and Spanish to leave or face arrest. We stood our ground. Three young workers who lived across the street began vigorously chanting “Black Lives Matter”. We called out the contemptuous kkops, who smirked at our chants. Meanwhile, we distributed literature and talked with workers who lived near the station. Several filmed our action. They were unanimous in their support.

Family members from each of the other four victims’ families spoke on the bullhorn. The horrendous stories of their losses are heartbreakening, but, working-class anger predominated in response to their impassioned calls for justice. After two hours of rallying and shutting down the parking lot exit, we accomplished our goals for the day. We pledged to continue the battle to smash racism and, before leaving, warned the Southeast Station kops that they had not seen the last of us.

KKKops and kkkourts: partners in racist terror

Three days later, the weekly meeting of the Los Angeles Police Commission (LAPC) was scheduled to discuss the November 19, 2019 murder of Alex Flores. The LAPC basically rubber stamps police murders. They discuss the cases in “closed session.” It is exceedingly rare for a killer cop to be disciplined when they murder one of our class. The LA City Attorney no doubt advises the LAPC to avoid findings that would in any way aid families filing civil rights lawsuits against the cops and the City.

Alex’s family was determined to tell their story to the LAPC. PLPers and others joined them online. We witnessed a racist travesty. The LAPC said the day before that it would allow the family a total of 10 minutes to speak. But they were cut off after only six by the Commissioners sitting in their posh offices because we hadn’t supplied them with the names of the family speakers the prior day. We notified them in advance that translation was needed for Alex’s mother and father. Of course there was a “technical problem” and they didn’t have translation services available. A substituted board secretary mangled what Alex’s parents said, her translation deliberately leaving out statements like “all cops are racist”.

Many other speakers supported the Flores family’s struggles and sharply attacked the LAPC for persistently condoning the cops murders. But the klan-in-blue also organized themselves and their friends to speak. They attacked Alex and his family as “gang members”, among other disgusting slanders. These are the same racist LAPD cops whose fellow officers have recently been exposed as fraudulently adding thousands of mainly Black and Latin youth to the “CalGang” statewide database, subjecting targeted youth to enhanced charges.

PLP must continue to help lead the battle for justice for the family of Alex Flores and many others. The main women workers who lead these campaigns defy the sexist gender roles that capitalism imposes on our class. They are strong, smart and dedicated organizers of working-class fightback against racism. Through this work, more people understand the true role of the police in a capitalist society and see PLP as leading the fight against their murders. Communist ideas will become more widespread and the Party will grow. Only a communist society can eliminate the bosses’ armed goons who protect private property and preserve the rule of the capitalists.

LA: workers slam racist kkops on the streets and in the courts

November 18, 2020 • CHALLENGE • page 3
Colombia: workers battle police terror and reformist ideas

COLOMBIA, November 1—In recent days, the working class has marched and protested once again. This is in response to the racist murders of over 150 social leaders this year and the recurrent police terrorism. The rage that Walter Wallace Jr.’s family and community is facing mirrors the state-funded repression families battle within Nigeria. In Nigeria the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) has kidnapped, raped, beaten and held hundreds of workers for ransom and killed them and their families if they failed to meet their extortionary demands.

In Philadelphia, Cathy Wallace had called an ambulance to help with her son who was having a mental health crisis and the parasitic capitalist system’s response was armed police. The furious uprising that resulted was met with hovering helicopters, and the Democrat Mayor Jim Kenney imposing a curfew on the city twice and bringing in the National Guard.

PLP’s main contribution at both protests was to share CHALLENGE newspaper and communist ideas promoting revolutionary, class-based multiracial unity. A PL’er told a worker, “You and I, as Nigerian and Mexican workers, have more in common with each other than we do with people rich in either country. Whenever any of us are attacked, all of the international working class has to rise up. That’s what this paper is about.”

The worker from Nigeria encouraged this message to be repeated on the mic in front of the crowd. In Philly, 100 copies of CHALLENGE were distributed among a multiracial group of 1,000 workers. Our chants “From Philly to Nigeria, Racist KKops Have Got To Go” and “Asian, Latin, Black, Race White—To Smash Racism, We Must Unite” emboldened other angry workers around us to fire up their voices.

Black and Latin working class families responded with cheers from porches and sidewalks in response to the racist attacks, all of the international working class has to rise up. That’s what this paper is about.”

After the protest, an article from a previous issue of CHALLENGE was used to spark conversation around identity politics. Black, white and Latin workers conducted a study group, offering questions around Black leadership and a collective analysis of identity politics.

We struggled over whether politics with a class analysis should be primary. Identity-based leaders will only cycle workers into electoral politics and nationalism. New Jersey’s Ras Baraka, Chicago’s Lori Lightfoot, Mexico’s Andrés Manuel López Obrador, Jim Crow Joe Biden and Top KKops Kamala Harris are no friends of our class. They only serve to win us over to nationalism and convince us to support U.S. bosses’ in wars against their inter-imperialist rivals.

But our potential to build our Party and put an end to exploitation with the demolition of capitalism and build the dictatorship of the proletariat under the ideas of PLP and its communist line is strong. That is why in Haiti, Mexico, India, the United States, Colombia and in other areas around the world, our Party fights to build a communist mass movement. We cannot rely on reforms or spontaneous uprisings alone. We struggled over whether politics with a class analysis should be primary. Identity-based leaders will only cycle workers into electoral politics and nationalism. New Jersey’s Ras Baraka, Chicago’s Lori Lightfoot, Mexico’s Andrés Manuel López Obrador, Jim Crow Joe Biden and Top KKops Kamala Harris are no friends of our class. They only serve to win us over to nationalism and convince us to support U.S. bosses’ in wars against their inter-imperialist rivals.

Communist politics mean nothing without base building

Regardless of who did or did not submit their vote for the lesser of two evils, the capitalist system will continue to hold workers’ consciousness captive. Many workers—from Philly to Newark to Nigeria—are temporarily invested in liberal politics and believe that those who fight to smash this system are naive. So base building in our communities for a long term struggle towards communist revolution is key. We must struggle and share communist ideas more frequently, not just react to the boss’s most intense attacks. Rise together and revolt. Join PLP today!

This is why we fight

The current climate is dark for our class. Under the yoke of the capitalist dictatorship, we will always receive repression and death. But our potential to build our Party and put an end to exploitation with the demolition of capitalism and build the dictatorship of the proletariat under the ideas of PLP and its communist line is strong.

That is why in Haiti, Mexico, India, the United States, Colombia and in other areas around the world, our Party fights to build a communist mass movement. We cannot rely on reforms or spontaneous uprisings alone. That is why we must continue to work in many organizations, winning workers to break with the rotten leadership of reformists, liberals, warmongers, racists, sexists, and nationalists.

That is why, everything you do counts. Fight for communism. Join PLP!
College Conference

Students, workers expose capitalist dictatorship, open to a communist future

NEW YORK, October 24—“We’ve got to change the top, the middle and the bottom. We’ve got to get rid of the whole thing.” This was the sentiment expressed by friends and members at the sixth annual Progressive Labor Party (PLP) College Conference, entitled “Communism, Cov- id-19 and The Fight Against Racism.” The October 24 conference drew international and national participation from nearly 90 students and educa-
tion workers. From the Bronx to New Jersey from Brooklyn to Puerto Rico, speakers strategized about fightback struggles on the City University of New York (CUNY) campuses and uniting student and worker struggles.

The opening speaker laid out the state of the world: increasing rivalry between the U.S. and its imperialist foes such as China and Russia is creating more volatility and a need for greater fascist control. The cutbacks on campuses are part of this trend, as local bosses prepare workers and stu-
dents to accept worsening conditions. The speech ended on a positive note, as the many lightbulbs that workers and students have engaged in were highlighted, and linked to the need for commu-
nist leadership to turn these fights into schools for communism.

Bosss’ dictatorship exposed

One participant suggested that by getting rid of the top New York racists, Mayor Bill de Blasio and Governor Andrew Cuomo, things would be better for workers here. But regardless of who occupies city hall, the governor’s office or the Presidency, cutbacks on campus campuses, the continued needlessly deaths from Covid-19 and racist attacks on the homeless will continue (see article below). Instead, the nearly 90 attendees spent four hours discussing another approach: organizing the stu-
dents and workers to join the revolutionary PLP to destroy the system entirely. During the break-
out sessions, participants discussed Bolshevik theory of the state in rela-
tion to elections—that no matter which capitalist party is in charge, it’s always a bosses’ dictatorship under capitalism.

We also debunked the capitalists’ use of bogus “white privilege” ideology as a means of co-opting and commodifying multiracial, anti-racist work-
ers’ struggles. It is in the interest of all workers to abolish racism, a tool of capitalist division.

Finally, Da Homeless Hero, a leader of the struggle against de Blasio’s racist attacks on home-
less workers, closed the conference with a rousing call for all workers to unite and fight the capitalist attack on workers in the coronavirus era.

Students: to arms and revolu-
tion!

With college students facing rising homelessness—more than 25 percent of students at commu-
nity colleges deal with homelessness and a full third face food shortages—it is all the more important that friends and members of PLP are in the streets and hallways of college campuses, uniting student militancy, and workers to fight for communism. This is the only way we will get what we want and need as an international working class.

A central aspect of PLP’s outlook is to make practice primary over theory, and so our final ap-
peal was for every attendee to increase their en-
gagement in fightback struggles. We invited everyone to participate in election day demonstrations and CHALLENGE sales to bring the ideas of the conference out to the masses of students and workers.

NEW YORK CITY, October 18—“Mayor de Blasio, you have committed a crime, a ma-
JOR injustice against Black and Brown people, in particular to the men at the Lucerne Hotel…You are a racist, and even worse than that guy in the White House!” That’s what a New York City (NYC) homeless resident leader had to say at a rally at the Mayor’s residence at Gracie Mansion, where homeless workers from three temporary shelters and their supporters presented Bill de Blasio with the “Tale of Two Cities” Award, a fitting distinction for being the architect of racist displacement and homelessness.

As we fight to support the homeless men at the Lucerne Hotel, let’s remember that homelessness and racism is endemic to capitalism. While we fight against homelessness, let’s organize to get rid of the whole profit system. Join the Progressive Labor Party (PLP) and build toward communism, where there is no homelessness and the working class rules society.

Because of pressure from the recently formed, racist West Side Community Organization (WSCO) the Mayor wants to transfer the more than 240 mostly Black and Latin homeless men, safely housed and socially distanced in the Lucerne Ho-
et, to a hotel in the Wall Street area. He ordered the men transferred, bowing to the demands of a handful of rich, racist businessmen and real-estate owners, backed by former Mayor and top Donald Trump confidante Rudy Giuliani.

The WSCO claims 10,000 followers on Face-
book, but they have never put more than a hand-
ful in the street and never filed their threatened lawsuit. By bowing to these racists, de Blasio en-
couraged another group of rich racists in the Wall Street area to go to court to prevent the men from being moved to the Financial District. Another group has formed in Hell’s Kitchen.

Liberal politicians like de Blasio say they’re for the working class, but really they serve the billion-
naire capitalists. They are “wolves in sheep’s clothing.” That’s what makes them worse than “that guy in the White House.” The whole racist profit system has got to go.

Lucerne residents have won a Temporary Rest-
rainting Order (TRO) to stop the planned trans-
fer, at least until another hearing scheduled for November 16. More than 50 Upper West Side (UWS) residents showed up to support our home-
less brothers and if need be, to stop the City from moving them out before their case was heard.

Capitalism, home of racist inequality

The City attorneys argued that the homeless men have no right to stay at the Lucerne, and no right to have a say in where they would be placed. The judge, for now, rejected both arguments.

Bosss’ profits soar, workers’ housing gone

There are about 700 homeless workers in four UWS hotels, and thousands more in 60 hotels around the city. In May 2020, there were 13,523 homeless families with 28,464 homeless children in the New York City shelter system, 90 percent of whom are Black and Latin. Thousands of unshel-
l tered homeless people sleep on the streets, in the subway and in public spaces every night. (CoalitionoftheHomeless.org).

Meanwhile, 118 billionaires increased their wealth by $77 billion during the pandemic and the Democratic Governor, Mayor, City Coun-
cil and State Legislature won’t touch them. With more than a million New Yorkers out of work and tens of thousands of families facing evictions next January, homelessness will spread faster than Covid-19. All of the Democratic mayoral candidates, City Council members and city-wide elected officials who have come to speak at rallies and press conferences have provided no help at all as the crisis of racist poverty and homelessness deepens. Talk is cheap.

The Upper West Side Open Hearts Initiative (UWS OHI) emerged out of the antiracist upris-
ing this summer to defend the Lucerne residents, staging protests, marches on the Mayor’s home, and organizing all levels of support from cloth-
ing distributions to stop the City from moving the residents. As a result, the number of the residents suffer from substance abuse and/or mental illness.

PLP has been involved in this fight from the beginning, making new friends inside and out-
side the temporary homeless shelter. We are in this struggle to fight the racist attacks against our most vulnerable brothers and to build the move-
ment for communist revolution, to abolish racist inequality and homelessness.
all government contractors or anyone who receives federal grant money.

Upon reading it, I thought since it seemed to be mostly objecting to “critical race theory” and identity politics, they wouldn’t apply to my antiracism teaching at work. Instead, its broad interpretations are halt- ing discussions of racism and antiracism within the federal government. (The Department of Justice (DOJ), demanding that every case be reopened, letting lies and supporters to join our breakaway march, taking 97,000 signatures to the Department of Justice. This grassroots-led action boldly demanded that all cases of police terrorism must be reopened. A PLP goal was to point out the total failure of capitalism for workers and to point towards a communist world run by the workers.)

Disobey racist executive order & teach antiracism

I want to make CHALLENGE readers aware of President Trump’s recent executive order (EO), named, “Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping.” It’s a strangely written attack on any anti-racism teaching or discussion within the federal government and also applies to all government contractors or anyone who receives federal grant money.

On the other hand, our pre-march goal - for three groups: Boston’s Mass Action Against Police Brutality (MAAEB), New York’s Every Case Matters, and Baltimore’s West Coalition, along with many families affected by police brutality - was to ask Rev Sharpton and his National Action Network to demand that this system reopen all the cases of police brutality and police murder, and vigorously prosecute the perpetrators. A PLP goal was to point out the total failure of capitalism for workers and to point towards a communist world run by the workers.

Meanwhile, he ignored most of the families of police brutality victims who were present on the 28th, but who haven’t been in the national spotlight. We believed that the powerful worldwide protests and uprisings against police terror. Faced with locked doors, breakaway marchers rallied in the street, and vowed to continue the struggle.
Big Fascism: first they come for their own, then they come for us

The October 21 Justice Department $8 billion settlement smashing the Sackler family’s PurduePharma is an indication of the intensifying but still early-stage fascism the main imperialist wing of the U.S. ruling class is prepared to impose at this time.

PurduePharma developed and pushed the poison-pill Oxycontin throughout the 1990s and 2000s, deliberately misleading doctors and patients about this narcotic’s addictive qualities (NY Times, 1/15/19). By 2018 ten million workers and youth aged twelve and up were abusing prescription painkillers (hhs.gov). The Sacklers amassed a $13 billion dollar family fortune along the way. Meanwhile the opioid crisis cost U.S. capitalism $2.5 trillion between 2015 and 2018 (whitehouse.gov), leaving millions unfit for work or military service and killing 400,000 since 1999 (BBC 10/22).

The human wreckage written at a health crisis threatening the viability of the U.S. empire. Donald Trump’s Justice Department will strip the Sackler family of control of their factories – a very big deal for these capitalists as their future profit-making capacity has been severely degraded.

The Trump Department of Justice is still operated at the mid-levels by ‘deep-state’ functionaries loyal to Big Fascism—like the State Department ‘whistleblower’ whose testimony was critical to the failed Nancy Pelosi/main wing Trump impeachment effort of a year ago. This machinery will remain in place under a Joe Biden or Trump presidency and is the proving ground for early-stage fascism, where capitalists like the Sacklers might be stripped of control of their means of production, but left with a fortune in their hands.

Upcoming Congressional investigations to discipline pandemic-profiting Big Tech firms may look like good news to workers, but are signs of growing fascism as sure as Trump’s mass racist rallies or Biden/Kamala Harris mass incarceration. Whether carried out by Trump or Biden workers cannot afford to be carried away by enthusiasm in seeing one set of murderous, craven exploiters attack another.

As major war with imperialist rival China moves closer, greater sacrifice will be imposed on all society, but on workers most of all. U.S. imperialists, the deadliest ruling class in world history, need unrestricted access to our labor on the home front and our bodies on the battlefront. To set the stage for such a social order the Big Fascists must attack members of their own class whose empire-eroding pursuit of profit undercuts the needs of U.S. imperialism.

We must keep our eye on the prize—a dictatorship of the proletariat that will banish exploitation of our class by sweeping it out of existence under a Joe Biden or Trump presidency. We must keep our eye on the prize—banish exploitation of our class by sweeping it out of existence under a Joe Biden or Trump presidency. Whether carried out by Trump or Biden/ Kamala Harris mass incarceration, the world under a Joe Biden or Trump presidency is the proving ground for early-stage fascism, where capitalists like the Sacklers might be stripped of control of their means of production, but left with a fortune in their hands.

Over 5,500 children torn from parents

NYT, 10/22 — Parents separated from their children at the U.S. border beginning in 2017 under the Trump administration’s immigration policy...have not been found....

About 60 of the children were under...five when they were separated...with wrenching images of crying children being carried away from their parents...and detained hundreds or thousands of miles away...(and) have now endured years of separation....New data...brought the total of separated children to more than 5,500....Many...working with separated families said the federal government had put up one obstacle after another to reuniting families....Most were forced by the family separation policy to make impossible choices.

One such parent, Luana, a mother of four girls...after being separated from her children at the U.S. border...fleeing Honduras...said their lives had been threatened....The Trump administration has no plans to keep track of the families or ever reunite them....said [the] legal director of Justice in Motion....

...They kept the names from the court, from us, from the public....[ACLU lawyer] Lee Gelernt said.

Racist militias get bolder

NYT, 10/10 — The “militia movement”....term has taken on new meaning....[as] more groups turned out in force during demonstrations against police brutality....Members of armed groups have led to deaths in Kenosha, Wis., Portland, Ore. and Denver....

There are currently 181 active paramilitary groups in the United States....Historians consider the Ku Klux Klan a militia....Using the word “mili-
tia”...was a deliberate attempt to attract a broader membership, by veiling the often racist, anti-Semitic, anti-immigrant and homophbic origins of such groups....[which] include white supremacists, prison guards, the tax protest movement, anti-vaxxers [and] skinheads.

Covid kills workers, bosses rake in billions

NYT, 10/23 — OSHA...has announced fines for only two meatpacking plants for...less than $30,000. [While] JBS and...Smithfield Foods combined...were slapped to take in tens of billions of dollars worldwide last year.

[in] the meat industry...the virus has infected thousands of its workers — including more than 1,500 at [those] two facilities... and dozens have died.

“The number of plants with outbreaks was enormous around the country,” said David Michaels, an epidemiologist....”But most OSHA offices haven’t yet issued any citations.”

Trump signed an executive order declaring...meatpacking plants...remain open during the pandemic.

...Under [a] new interpretation...an employer is no longer required to report a Covid-related hospitalization within 24 hours of learning about it. Instead, only...within 24 hours of the worker’s exposure to the virus on the job — timing that may be impossible to determine.

“It’s a way to guarantee you have no reports,” said [a former OSHA head]. “They’re telling employers: ‘Don’t worry. We’re not going to make you do anything.’

U.S. bankers’ workers’ lives

NYT, 11/12 — Pakistan was alarmingly short of doctors and medical facilities long before anyone had ever heard of Covid-19. Then the pandemic overwhelmed the hospitals...Families lost livelihoods and struggled to feed themselves.

Two deep-pocketed organizations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), vowed to spare poor countries from desperation...[and] a humanitarian catastrophe....

But wages sent home to poor countries by migrant workers...have diminished....Billions of people have lost the wherewithal to buy food, increasing malnutrition. By next year, the pandemic could push 150 million people into extreme poverty....

But the World Bank and the IMF have failed to translate their “concern” into meaningful support....

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...The IMF and the World Bank...have mar-
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...The pandemic has displayed...bias toward countries...and patients about this narcotic’s addictive qualities (NY Times, 1/15/19). By 2018 ten million workers and youth aged twelve and up were abusing prescription painkillers (hhs.gov). The Sacklers amassed a $13 billion dollar family fortune along the way. Meanwhile the opioid crisis cost U.S. capitalism $2.5 trillion between 2015 and 2018 (whitehouse.gov), leaving millions unfit for work or military service and killing 400,000 since 1999 (BBC 10/22).

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We must keep our eye on the prize—a dictatorship of the proletariat that will banish exploitation of our class by sweeping it out of existence under a Joe Biden or Trump presidency.
WHEN FASCISTS ATTACK,
WE BEAT THEM BACK!

SAN FRANCISCO, October 17—Hundreds of antifascist fighters assembled on short notice today to stop a fascist rally dead in its tracks. When word went out that the racist, sexist Proud Boys planned a rally here, it was Progressive Labor Party’s (PLP) revolutionary communist duty to be present, ready to fight back with our anti-fascist class sisters and brothers.

Yet the Proud Boys are small fry compared to the Big Fascists who control Wall Street and wage wars over Mideast oil. So to eradicate all fascists, we must kill the profit system that birthed them all, possible only when readers like you help build a mass Party of millions.

**Break a fascist’s face**

The city of San Francisco is a target because it is what is termed by the bosses as a “sanctuary city” that supposedly shelters immigrant workers. It also draws the gutter racists’ wrath because many residents of the city are antiracist, and it has a Black mayor. The initial rally permit was for Dolores Park in the Mission District (until recently home to many immigrant workers) but the night before the venue was changed to the UN Plaza.

The day of, the racist scum from “Team Save America” totaled six people and were defended by a force of approximately 300 kkkops. They were met by close to 400 anti-fascists. When the fascists arrived they were escorted behind a barricade by the police and they tried to speak. We shouted them down and threw plastic bottles of water to shut them down. Someone beat up one fascist, another fighter punched their leader, Philip Anderson, breaking his two front teeth. The fascists spoke for less than 10 minutes before being whisked away under police escort.

A few PLPers organized a small contingent to attend the counter-demonstration. As a student newer to the Party said, “We are here for two reasons: One is to clear the streets of fascists and defend the right of protest for the working class, and secondly to recruit anti-fascists to the PLP.”

**Liberal politicians & kkkops attack the working class**

The city’s Black liberal mayor, London Breed, spent at least $96,000 on overtime police pay to send the force of 300 to defend the fascists. This is the same mayor who promised, this past June, to re-allocate funds from the police and into reforms to supposedly benefit Black workers. But like all liberal politicians, when push came to shove, Breed sent out the kkkops to defend the capitalists and their private property.

The racist cops’ defense of fascist groups while attacking anti-racists is nothing new, and we should never expect them to be “neutral” in these struggles. Throughout this past summer we watched the bosses’ attack dogs beat and arrest countless anti-racists in the streets, only to allow murdering teen Kyle Rittenhouse stroll past them with a smoking assault rifle. They all protect this racist capitalist state!

**Only communism crushes fascism**

Some 100 counter-protesters wearing black clothing and flak vests identified with “Antifa,” short for anti-fascist. Antifa is a coalition of various groups including some who agree that violence against the far right is sometimes called for. The Antifa flag (“The Iron Front”) echoes the bosses’ lie that communism is like fascism, when in reality communists have been the greatest antiracist and anti-fascist force in history.

It was the communists who opposed fascism in Europe before and during World War II. It was the communists in the Soviet Union and the European partisans trained and organized by the Soviets who defeated Hitler. The Soviet Union lost millions of citizens in that conflict and the Nazis suffered 75 percent of their losses fighting the Soviets (Washington Post, 5/10/15). The U.S. and Great Britain held back and didn’t enter the war in Europe until it was clear that the Soviets were winning and that other workers of Europe might follow their lead and throw out capitalism elsewhere.

As the drums of imperialist war become clearer on the horizon, PLP is fighting to build our anti-fascist movement of millions. When the international working class takes power again, we’ll make sure that no seed of capitalism is ever allowed to grow—only communism. Fight fascism, join PLP!