



drum

VOL. I.. NO. 7

DODGE REVOLUTIONARY UNION MOVEMENT

DYING IN STREETS

Brother dying in the streets

On Friday night of last week during the lunch period on afternoon shift, one of our black brothers, Curtis Lee, was struck down by an automobile. He was crossing the street at the overpass gate on Jos. Campau and was knocked in the air and 100 feet down the street by a speeding automobile driven by a honky. As our black brother lay bleeding and dying in the street directly in front of the plant, the plant protection guards were summoned. Two Plant protection guards came into the street and refused to aid our brother. Curtis Lee lay dying and bleeding, moaning in the street and these two white racist guards refused to aid him. They refused on the grounds that they did not know if he was an employee at Hamtramck Assembly Plant, and that he had not been injured on plant property. They merely turned around and walked away

leaving Curtis to die in the streets.

Our black brothers went to Curtis's aid as best possible in terms of folding cardboard over him in order to at least keep the rain off of him.

The notorious Hamtramck police dept. drove up and began shouting at some of our brothers who were trying to aid our black brother

Curtis. They shouted for them to disperse and to move on and to stop their protest against the plant protection guards who had refused to aid the brother. The Hamtramck police dept then finally took Curtis by stretcher in to the waiting ambulance.

Curtis Lee is now in Ford Hospital in critical condition. He is suffering from internal injuries, fractured skull, three broken ribs, a broken arm and two broken legs; In the last edition of DRUM we discussed how ridiculous the med-

ical situation at Hamtramck assembly plant is. We explained how the racist management at the plant has no regard whatsoever for the lives of black workers. And yet the racist plant protection guards would not even take our dying black brother to the ludicrous dispensary inside the plant. It is obvious that if black workers are to receive any type of humane treatment it will be from each other. Curtis Lee had been an employee at Hamtramck Assembly for about two weeks. Chrysler had hired him and worked him like a dog. He had merely gone out for lunch break and was mowed down by an automobile, and left to die in the street directly in front of the plant by the white racist management of the company.

Black brothers and sisters, prepare yourselves for open struggle. We can no longer sit idly by while these dirty inhuman white racists squat in the seats of power while we literally die in the streets one by one.

JOIN DRUM

JOHN MATHEW JR.

The true Story of John Mathew Jr.

John Matthew Jr. worked at the Hamtramck Assembly Plant in the trim shop since 1964. He is married and the father of a small son. He was discharged in February of this year.

John was discharged for being seven minutes late. John was a victim of his racist supervisor. He was disliked by his foreman Larry Bustick who has since been transferred to the second shift and dislikes all black except Toms. He is the same foreman that a young black had to knock on his ass a few months before. He took his dislike out on Johnnie.

John was also disliked by his general foreman Mike Kandrak, better known as Black Mike. This name, Black Mike was given to this foreman by his white brothers. It must be a true picture of the real Mike, for the color of his skin is white. John was a good worker so they couldn't fire him for his work, so they waited for an excuse. Johnnie was late four times this year said a labor relations man.

John's steward, Rachael (Rae) Hale is late four times a week. But Rae, you guessed it, is white. John is black; could this make a difference

We asked a sister a question. What's the union doing for Johnnie. She told us that she had mentioned this case to our vice President (a Black Brother) on two occasions. He, Charlie Brooks, told her he didn't know anything about the case. Since she mentioned it to him he has found out nothing and done nothing. Johnnie is still walking the bricks. Rae says it is out of his hands. His case is at Highland Park.

How many John Mathew's must we have before our union local #3 will face the facts that we have problems in the Hamtramck Assembly Plant. Do we have to wild cat to dramatize this fact? How much are we expected to take before we take action? The answers my Brothers and Sisters are blowing in the winds, the answers are blowing in the winds.

Watch your style, you could be next.

B.X.9

ROBERT BROOKS (B.X.9)

Robert Brooks (B.X.9) was the first black foreman on the 5th floor in dept 9150. He works in the 35 elevator area and is a stone Tom. He actually thinks that he is white; he wore a green tie on St. Patrick's Day.

During the 10% cut back in February 1967, he sold his soul to the white power structure in order to stay in supervision. He is the dirtiest foreman in production, grease all over his back, grim all over his face, running and ripping, working all up and down the line. He really tries to show the white power structure that he is their boy.

Every time he makes a mistake in his group, he pacifies the white man by firing a black brother. It seems that the only basis for discharge that he can come up with is insubordination. Can you imagine being insubordinate to a prick like this? Recently he fired one of our young black sisters because he run his thing on her and shot a reject.

During the walkout, pressure was so heavy on him that he cried for some assistance and was given another uncle Tom foreman in dept. 9150, Willie Leatherwood.

Any black brother in his area who tries to be a man is transferred to other groups. Just last Friday a brother was fired from his group for being insubordinate and Brooks added that the brother called him black. DRUM not only calls Robert Brooks black, but he is a black uncle Tom and flunky for the white racist power structure at this plant.

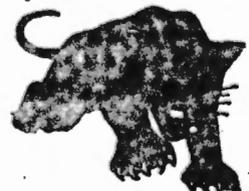
go home

Dept. 9130
Sat. June 15, 1968

The utility man reported to work at 7:00 a.m.. This is one of 30 special utility men that was negotiated by company and union at the last contract signing. This man is not supposed to work on the line on any one job all day except in case of an emergency. His primary duties are job mix and to kind of an assistant to the foreman. The whitey who was this man's foreman for one day while the regular foreman was off decided that he wanted to do things his way. He put this man on the line and told him that he would be there all day while the man who was supposed to be on the line was

doing the utility man's work. He asked for his steward and was refused. The foreman then began harassing and using abusive language at the same time accusing the man of not doing his job. Eventually, this man with 16 years seniority and a perfect record was sent to the office where they had a kangaroo court and sent him home for refusing to carry out the instructions of his foreman. Easy Ed Benford struck again he told the brother that if he didn't get out of his coveralls in 5 minutes he would send for plant protection to throw him out. D.R.U.M. demands that these kinds of practices be stopped.

JOIN D.R.U.M.



Up Tight

Honky pulls gun on our black brothers.

On Tuesday of last week while our young black brothers were passing out our 6th edition of DRUM on Jos. Campau at the over pass gate, two white men drove up and tried to run over a brother who crossing the street going to work. The brother shouted at the driver who had attempted to mow him down, the car stopped, and an argument ensued. The young brothers who were distributing DRUM immediately went to their black brothers aid. The Honky riding in the passenger seat reached under his seat and pulled out a pistol on our brothers.

The brothers, being unarmed, fled for their lives. This is an example of the path that the black workers struggle is taking. Just last week we mentioned in 6th edition of DRUM that blood would probably be shed in our struggle at these gates. One week later we have already been confronted in an openly violent manner. But we are going to carry our just and righteous struggle through to to end come what may. Brothers and sisters prepare yourselves for whatever goes down.

JOIN DRUM

Color Line

Conversations around the world for the past two years has been race relations. We black workers have witnessed positive and negative reactions to this situation. The moods and feelings of people in general have changed with this reactions.

Ethnic organizations and political figures have tried to address this problem but the essence of it lies right here at Hamtramck Assembly Plant and other plants like it.

We, the black workers have been shut off systematically from expressing our opinions on a problem that is directly concerned with us. We have also been fooled by false promises and forced by economical pressures to join a union that is formulated on a dictatorial system (you cannot vote for the president) This has created 4300 union members at Hamtramck Assembly. This is the cradle of the black man's struggle. The tactic used here has been to completely ignore the black man. The rollers learned well from the Germans for this is what Hitler did to Poland in World War II.

The black worker is regarded like a machine. You work and keep your mouth shut and all is well. Open your mouth and the white racist management will close it for you. The entire struggle is wrapped up here in the factories, while our fearless President (Walter P. Reuther) is in Washington in the poor people's March crying for freedom. He ain't hardly poor and has more freedom than any black man.

Strike

STRIKE

When is the strike coming? If you recall in the earlier edition of DRUM, the fact that Highland Park and Local management had a meeting discussing build out date. The company responded with mass discharges of black workers, and the union responded with strike procedure. The truth of the matter is that the company action build out date takes 50 days the Union's action takes 60 days. Consequently even if the Union's action was serious, it would not be in time to stop the company's notorious action. If you are expecting a Union sponsored strike, forget it.

JOIN DRUM

BLACK MEN

BLACK MEN, you are the first and will be the last if there is any last. However if we, the Black race continue to be Uncle Toms and Jeff Davis's for the white man, you will be first.

The white man today lives off of the black man's manpower and his own poor white brothers. In order for the black man to become creative and get equal justice, he must become united with his Black brothers and sisters. Stop being the white man's tool he uses against your black brother, stop telling and informing to the white man about the new pair of shoes that your black brother brought, in other words, keep your damn mouth to yourself.

This is why the white man has the best jobs, homes, and bank accounts today. Tell me Uncle Toms, Jeff Davis's, James Bonds, what do you have, a house, that rains; a job that he, the white man gave you, last hired, the first fired, buddy, you better wake up, the fact is that our greatest trouble is that we like to be dis-united, which is our destruction. Unity of the Black man in America is self strength, and stability. So black brother, be industrious, seek education, the best education wherever you can. I heard on the grape vine that an Uncle Tom sinech fink, that thinks he's Mr. Wonderful, had a few shots thrown his way. I wonder who will be

snatched next. He has two white women who everyone knows them for what they are, but walk into one of the bars that you and I can enter and you will see every black man there trying to out do all the other black fools. Wake up black man before you end up giving up even your life.

In closing, let me say here and now that DRUM is moving ahead so brothers and sisters lets join hands and hold on, keep your head up, look whitey in the eyes and say, "I'm just as good as You."

C.R.B.

ROBBERY

ROBBERY ON PLANT PREMISES.

About two weeks ago two white women who work for the Gladeux vending company which is a subsidiary of Chrysler Corp. were robbed on plant premises. Rumors began to fly, it was rumored that this or that black brother was involved in the robbery and that even the members of DRUM had something to do with it.

DRUM's position is that this was no robbery to begin with this was merely a question of someone at last receiving back pay. The real robbery the real theft is the theft that goes on in this plant hour by hour and day by day. The black workers in this plant are being systematically robbed of the fruits of their labor. They are also robbed of their human decency and basic respect, by the racist exploitive Chrysler Corp.

And by the CHRYSLER Corp. owning most of the Gladeux vending co. they are also being robbed of their hard earned wages. The vending co. carries nothing but stale, cold scrap for the get and have the nerve to call that scrap

food when it is not even fit for human consumption. Only one black brother is employed by this racist subsidiary of Chrysler Corp. The ragged vending machines constantly take the last quarter or dime from black brothers unfortunate enough to have to purchase scrap from them. And when a brother goes to collect his money lost in the machines the white racist women handling the cash have the damn audacity to get an attitude.

If a black brother reaches a point of frustration and is forced to rip in order to survive at least he remembered who his real enemy was.

Black brothers DRUM does not believe in apologizing for anything a back worker does. If there is any apologizing done it will have to be done by the white racist Chrysler Corp. and its subsidiaries or the notorious U.A.W. for systematically exploiting and missing over our fellow black workers for years'.

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HELP STRENGTHEN THE DODGE REVOLUTIONARY
UNION MOVEMENT.....

NAME

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THANK YOU.....