'We Are Not Anthropologists'

Sorting out American workers by their ethnic backgrounds is a job for anthropologists, not trade unions, our L.U. 1281, Anchorage, Alaska, has told the government. This was its reply to a questionnaire from the Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity asking all unions for the number of American Indians, Negroes, Orientals, Puerto Ricans and Spanish Americans in each local:

This local union does not have, nor has it ever had, any interest in an individual's ethnical background or his political beliefs. Our organization is composed of a very composite group, perhaps reflecting almost all of the major racial strains of the world.

We were unable to completely fill out the form on an honest basis as we are not anthropologists and we do not know when a member becomes or ceases to be a Negro, an Indian, an Oriental, a member of a minority group or any of the other designations in the form. For example, the treasurer of this local union, to the best of his knowledge, is part Negro, part Indian, part Jewish, part Irish and has perhaps a little Swedish blood.

Another of our officers is roughly in the same category.

We do not desire to dissect the poor devils and put part of them in each one of these columns.

We have many members who apparently have Negroid blood. In fact, some of the experts state that there is only one person in one million in the world today that does not have Negroid blood. We have a number of Alaskan aboriginals with Eskimo and Indian blood mixed with Russian, Scandinavian, Chinese and other so-called races whose sexual urges resulted in cross-breeding. We also have a number of members who came from the Hawaiian Islands. It appears that their ancestors were both promiscuous and prolific. We have at least one member from the British West Indies, ancestry unknown to us. We have one member from Cuba who speaks Spanish, looks like a Norwegian and drinks like an Irishman. We have several members newly arrived from European countries with names that God could not pronounce and whose ethnical origin is unknown to us.

Fortunately we are a long way from Governors Wallace and Barnett and a man's race is none of our business. To quote Mark Twain, "We do not allow one part of a man to outvote the other fifteen parts," as they do in the Deep South.

—THE CARPENTER, Sept.,1963

"Pure-blooded thoroughbreds" of all sorts, please take notice!

FOR A WORLD IN "PIECES"-(Ed.)

NOW HEAR THIS: At sunup yesterday, nine years after the first nuclear submarine rode down the building ways, 44 nuclear submarines had been launched to help the United States Navy keep the peace. By sundown yesterday, 48 nuclear submarines had been launched . . . four more in one day to augment the Navy's growing deterrent strength.

THE SHIPS

SSN 613—Flasher	(Built by General Dynamics/Electric Boat)
SSB(N)628—Tecumseh	(Built by General Dynamics/Electric Boat)
SSB(N)629—Daniel Boone	(Built by Mare Island Naval Shipyard)
SSB(N)630—John Calhoun	(Built by Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock Company)

Keeping the peace is not a simple thing. It took only minutes yesterday to launch these particular ships. It has taken years for the Navy and industry jointly to develop and build this undersea fleet.

Under the direction of the Department of the Navy and the Atomic Energy Commission, General Dynamics has built a substantial number of this nation's nuclear submarines. We are proud of our share in this task. The most important subject in the world today is peace.

GENERAL DYNAMICS

serving the nation through these divisions:

Astronautics; Convair; Electric Boat; Electro Dynamic; Electronics; Fort Worth; General Atomic; Liquid Carbonic; Material Service; Pomona; Stromberg-Carlson

FULL PAGE AD IN NEW YORK TIMES, June 23, 1963

An Australian Assessment

Productivity and Labor-Power Problems

Rising productivity of labor is both the joy and scourge of capitalism. It is a joy in that the profit margin is thereby made secure: a scourge in that productivity raises inescapable problems of marketing, unemployment and the dangers of growing awareness among those who produce but do not possess this increasing wealth.

Its analysis leads us along many paths and lights up many dark mysteries.

Class Defence and Attack

During 1945 the greatest war in history came grinding to a stop. Time then was taken off from mutual destruction to survey the damage so thoroughly, energetically and widespreadly executed. The human race stood stunned at the evidence of self destruction. It was estimated that one quarter of the world's population was in very real danger of dying from sheer starvation. Subsequently, this world-wide situation was repeatedly used by employers to defer wage rises and partly this was the method and reason for dampening down otherwise effective demands for wage increases. The master class defence then was "Wages can only rise AFTER a substantial increase in productivity."

The listening workers forgot the lessons of morbid depression years when general increasing productivity led first to unemployment and then onto war itself, and never realised it was only the existing high productivity of labor that enabled World War II to be waged on such a widespread and horrifying scale. They generally were amenable to this deceptive logic especially in view of Labor Governments and the terrible aftermath of war.

To the immense majority of workers unversed in recognising what they see and experience, this appeal seemed reasonable enough. (After all, what sudden development of the analytical powers can be expected of a whole generation of slaves who allow themselves to be bulldozed into total warfare?)

As the postwar years rolled on, industrial development, expansion and research was to cause this master class logic to become obsolete and even dangerous to themselves. Less and less was it used to inhibit labor unions in their claims for increasing wages. Strongly evident was the fact that productivity per man-hour was increasing faster in postwar years than ever before. Indeed this is increasing at a progressive rate with each passing year. To draw the attention of the unions to the state and level of productivity NOW is to further strengthen their demands for higher living standards. So now no reference at all to productivity-wages ratios is made by the master class when resisting the unions' wage and other claims. In the past the comparatively low degree of labor productivity was a weapon of defence used by the master when dealing with the working class. Now rising productivity must be used fully and intelligently as a weapon of attack in the interests of the last class to attain social emancipation, i.e., the modern wage laborer. Now to spotlight one typical example of this:

"The Brown Coal Advisory Committee appointed by the Victoria (Australia) Government of the day investigated the reservation and utilisation of brown coal."

During 1918 the Victorian Parliament passed the historic Act creating a State Electricity Authority the chief function of which was to co-ordinate and extend on an economic basis the supply of electricity throughout Victoria." (Victorian Year Book 1961.)

The 24-Hour Strike.

45 years after passing this Act, 12,000 employees of the State Elec-