

MILITARISM TIGHTENS GRIP ON AMERICA

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THE MILITANT

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STEEL UNION CAN WIN ON PICKET LINE

Trucks Law Aimed at Labor Says Mich. CIO Convention

DETROIT, June 3 — The Michigan State CIO convention at Grand Rapids today unanimously passed a resolution condemning the Trucks Law which was used by the state attorney general to arbitrarily bar the Socialist Workers Party from the ballot in this state. The resolution scored the totalitarian measure as "one of the worst samples of malicious witchcraft legislation," pointed out that it was aimed primarily at unions and that it was part of "an irresponsible smear and fear campaign against the legitimate objectives of the labor movement."

Meanwhile in Detroit wide publicity was given to the CIO attack on the Trucks law through a report in the Detroit Free Press last Sunday. This paper of almost a half million circulation said that the Trucks law would be one of the main issues before the state CIO convention.

Passage of the resolution followed the CIO's opening blast against the law in an editorial in the May 22 Michigan CIO News which said: "The Trucks law is a totalitarian measure. It imperils freedom of speech. It can be used to eliminate political opposition. It is dangerous and it is unnecessary."

In the issue of May 29 the CIO paper reports the filing of a suit against the Trucks law in the Wayne county circuit court by the Socialist Workers Party in its fight for a place on the Michigan ballot.

It gives the following summary of the reasons set forth in the SWP complaint as to why the law is unconstitutional:

"The attorney general's ruling was arbitrary. The law violates the U.S. constitution and Michigan constitution. It judges a person or organization guilty without trial. It punishes for acts allegedly committed prior to the enactment of the law."

"There is no reasonable criteria or standard for determining criminal conduct," the summary concludes. "The broad definitions in the act permit abuses. The SWP was not given notice of hearing on the case nor were

they given the opportunity to present a rebuttal to the charges."

These illegal and unconstitutional acts described by the CIO paper have now been followed by a new legal outrage in the form of a motion by attorney-general Millard to dismiss the SWP court action.

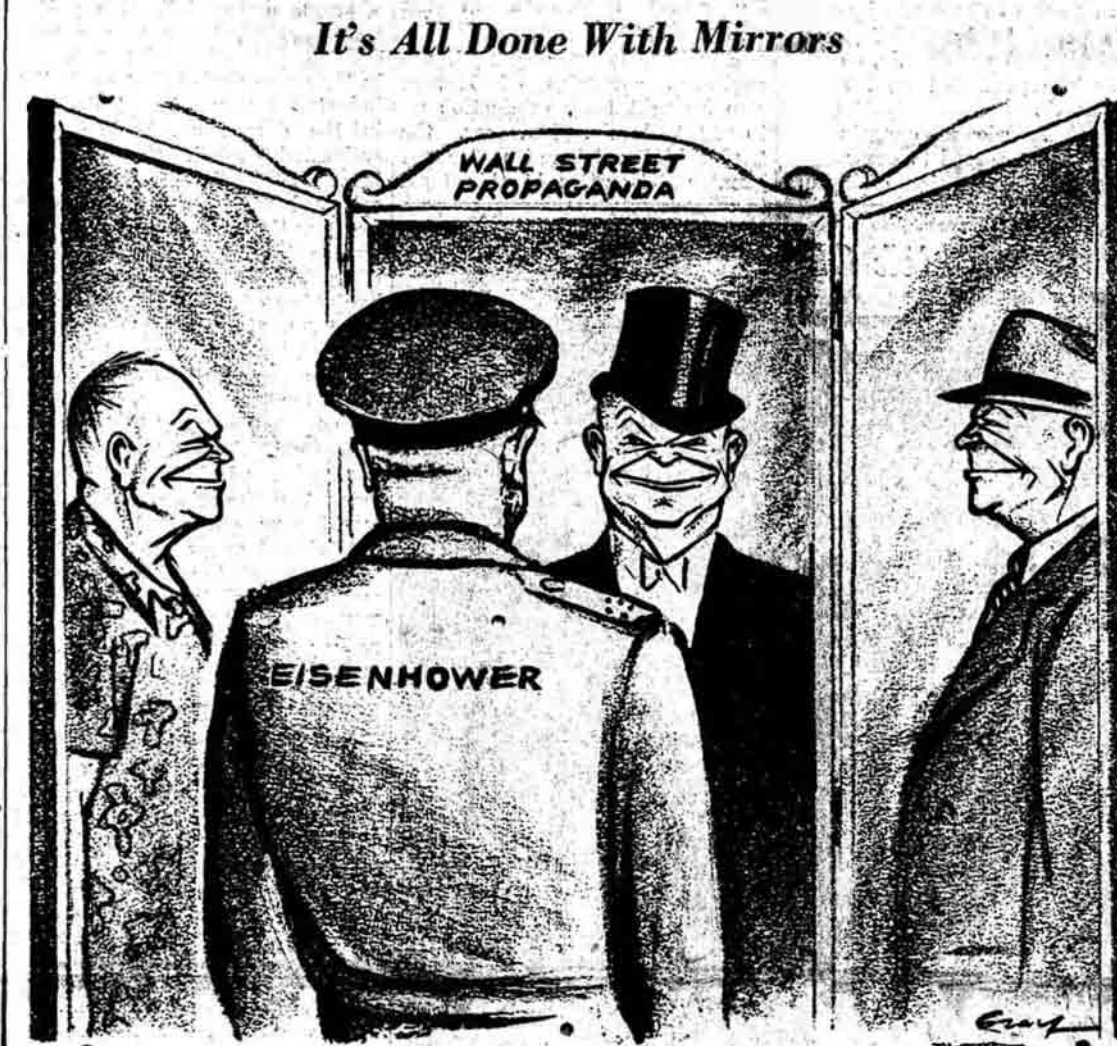
In his motion Millard cynically asserts that, since the SWP contends the Trucks law has no application whatever to it, the party's suit raises "academic questions." But he has not withdrawn his "memo" placing the SWP under the law.

In the Communist Party suit in federal court he argued that they should be in the state court. He now claims that the SWP should not be in the state court but in the federal court. The truth is that Millard doesn't want to have to defend the Trucks law in any court.

PERSISTS IN BARRING SWP
In his motion he argues that the state officials are already restrained by the federal court from using the Trucks law to bar parties from the ballot. But he persists in his refusal to put the SWP on the ballot, although the party has complied with all the election laws.

Millard also states that whatever the decision of the three-judge federal court may be in the Communist Party suit against the Trucks law, which will probably be handed down this month, "said decision will be appealed immediately directly to the Supreme Court of the United States."

A hearing is scheduled for June 6 before circuit Judge Lila Nevenfelt at which time attorneys for the SWP will oppose Millard's motion for dismissal and renew the SWP's application for a restraining order and temporary injunction pending the court's decision on the constitutionality of the Trucks law.



Michigan CIO Parley Hits Trucks Act as 'Malicious'

The Michigan CIO resolution on the Trucks Act, unanimously passed at the Grand Rapids convention on June 3, strongly condemns not only the Trucks Act but other thought control legislation as well. It resolves:

"That this 14th Annual Convention of the Michigan CIO Council go on record reaffirming its fight against all thought control and totalitarianism, whether emanating from the communist left or the republican Trustist right, and be it further Resolved that this convention go on record reaffirming its faith in and support of the democratic way of life, opposed to provision of any existing laws which would permit prosecution on the basis of speech and ideas, and that we rededicate ourselves to the preservation of civil liberties, and the support of liberal legislation for Michigan and the United States; and that we call upon all men of good will to join with us in bringing about these recommendations so that the principles of freedom and liberty shall not perish from this last hope of democracy."

In attacking the Trucks Act directly, the resolution says: "One of the worst samples of malicious, witchcraft legislation which seeks to make martyrs of the Communists, and other political party minorities, has been enacted in the State of Michigan, which nullifies traditional American civil liberties, and is known as the Trucks Act. Many sincere and honest legislators not realizing the far reaching implications of such legislation, and in turn themselves fearing the vicious smear tactics of the 'MacCarthy' type politicians and the newspapers, have voted for this act."

The resolution calls the Act unconstitutional, and shows how it could be used against the entire labor movement:

"Provisions of the Un-American Trusts Act, unconstitutional makes mere membership in an alleged 'Communist front organization' the basis for a felony prosecution; and a person can

be declared a member of such an organization even though he does not pay dues or hold a membership card; and makes the refusal of a person to testify against himself or others automatic proof of guilt; in the section of the law dealing with sabotage there is such dangerously broad and loose language that it could be used in a labor dispute in defense industries to impose penitentiary sentence on workers engaged in legitimate union strikes, and the law is necessary since there already exists federal and state laws dealing effectively with sabotage and treason."

Despite the fact that the resolution as a whole is directed against the witch hunt, it shows traces of the witch hunt itself. A long opening section is included in which the drafters of the resolution try to show that they have been the foremost fighters against "communism," and that the legislators who passed the

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H-Bomb Equals All Bombs Used In World War II

Air Force Magazine stated on May 28 that there will soon be a single bomb with an explosive power greater than that of all the bombs dropped by all powers in World War II. Obviously referring to the hydrogen bomb, the magazine said: "Soon, a few men in one airplane, flying at sonic speeds and never seeing the ground, will be able to drop anywhere on the face of the earth a single bomb containing an explosive power far greater than the total dropped during World War II."

The magazine also indicated that this weapon will not be the exclusive possession of any single power. Russia is "as near or nearer" to the bomb than the U.S.

Vote in Italy Shows Grave Fascist Trend

The Italian municipal elections for 1952, recently concluded, show a decided weakening of strength of the center parties, a small growth of the left and a big fascist resurgence.

Of the approximately 7 1/2 million votes cast, close to 3 million went to the 4-party center coalition, almost 2 1/2 million were won by the Communist-Socialist alliance of the left, and more than 1 1/2 million votes were cast for the neo-fascist and monarchist movements.

CHANGE SINCE '48

In comparison with the 1948 elections, this shows the following changes: The center alliance lost almost 1 1/4 million votes. Of this total, about 1/4 million went to the left and a full million was gained by the neo-fascist Social Movement and the Monarchists.

This shift shows that the "anti-communism" of the center has helped pave the way for a comeback of extreme reaction in Italy.

WASHINGTON'S ROLE

The dangerous growth of fascist and other right-wing strength is the direct result of State Department policy. Since the end of the war, Washington has intervened in Italian internal affairs through the Marshall plan, the Atlantic anti-Soviet pact, etc. Truman's aims were ballyhooed as intended to "save democracy" but their real character is becoming increasingly clear. As the election returns show, they have paid off in an ominous growth of fascist tendencies.

political opposition in West Germany against Wall Street's war plans is not pro-Stalinist. Stalinism in West Germany is thoroughly discredited.

The State Department, it is only too evident, hopes to simply bowl this opposition over by high-pressure methods. Hence the haste in getting Adenauer's signature. Hence the complete disregard of German feelings. Hence the failure to conduct a nationwide referendum in Germany to see whether or not the Germans want the pact.

The sympathies of the American workers, however, must lie wholly with the working people of Germany and the oppressed peoples the world over who want peace, not war. The struggle against war and for peace is a common one that knows no boundaries. We in America should join in demanding: "Get the troops out of Germany. Let the German people decide their own fate!"

Dependence On Government Is Proved a Trap

By Joseph Andrews

After seven months of company stalling and government intervention, 650,000 steel workers have been forced to fight it out on the picket lines. The steel moguls have made it clear from the beginning that this time they are determined to humble the United Steelworkers of America.

The mood of the steel workers was best expressed by one worker quoted in the press as stating, "It would have been all over by now if we had gone out and stayed out on January 1."

Government intervention has gained nothing but lost much for the steel workers. By not sticking to a "no contract, no work" policy the union lost valuable time, was maneuvered into giving up a large part of its original 22-point program in favor of the WSB compromise.

But even after six strike postponements by the union at government request, long months of "fact-finding" and "investigation," the steel corporations have refused to agree even to the whittled-down proposals of the WSB.

The whole record of the fight thus far shows that if the union is to win its demands — the provisions of the WSB recommendations — it will have to brace itself for a tough struggle. A firm, militant strike policy, adherence to the "no contract, no work" principle, can win the steel strike.

LEGISLATIVE ATTACK

But the union has to be prepared to meet Congressional attacks on its right to strike. A whole series of new bills are in the hopper in Senate and House committees, aimed at depriving the workers of the strike weapon.

The latest and most prominent publicized of such new laws is the Maybank bill, which would impose a 120-day injunction.

The record shows that government intervention has worked entirely in the interests of the steel companies. Here is a brief summary of the step-by-step run-around given the union:

1. Nov. 1. The union notified the companies it wished to bargain for a new contract. The companies showed no inclination to sit down and bargain.

2. Nov. 15. The union Wage Policy Committee met in Atlantic City and drew up its demands, which included a general wage increase of 15c. an hour, elimination of area wage differentials, increase in the wage increments between job classifications, raise in shift premiums, time and a half for Saturdays and double time for Sundays, union shop and many other basic improvements.

3. Dec. 17. When the companies refused to bargain on the union proposals and make a counter-proposal, the union scheduled a strike for Dec. 31.

4. The strike deadline was postponed after Truman referred the case to the WSB. The union's special convention voted to set the deadline ahead 45 days.

5. Prolonged WSB hearings were held. When the new strike deadline of Feb. 24 was reached,



PHILIP MURRAY

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RED CROSS HINTS FORCE USED IN PW 'SCREENING'

The Korea prisoner-of-war issue threatens to blow up in the Pentagon's face as protests and suspicions of Washington's actions and intentions in Korea mount throughout the world. A suppressed International Red Cross report on the Koje Island prison camp, unearthed by I. F. Stone of the N. Y. Daily Compass, is helping to reveal the true picture of the PW "screening" process. Resistance by the prisoners themselves is a big factor in making Washington's duplicity clear to the world.

In Britain, former Prime Minister Attlee and other members of the Labor opposition have questioned the Churchill government sharply on the Korean situation. The N. Y. Times of May 29 reports in a dispatch from London: "Several matters connected with the fighting in Korea are disturbing British public opinion. . . . For instance, there is a widely held suspicion that the United States itself wants to forestall an armistice for the present, and is using the prisoners of war issue as an excuse. . . . In short, the Korean war, never popular in this country, is growing even more unpopular and the American conduct of it is constantly more suspect."

The Canadian government has protested to Washington against the use of its troops in Korea as guards in PW camps, reflecting the growing suspicion that soldiers on Koje island are being called upon to do a dirty job of butchery and repression. A leading Australian paper demanded in a May 27 editorial that the censorship over Korean events be lifted. " . . . We could be involved in a global war on account of some policy move there without

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"Get Troops Out of Germany!"

The signing of the "contract" to include West Germany in the U.S. State Department's worldwide network of military alliances had wide reverberations last week.

The Kremlin responded with bristling statements that may mean intensified efforts at organized demonstrations to halt ratification of the pact by the various parliaments.

Walter Ulbricht, Deputy Premier of East Germany, declared: "The ratification of the general war treaty by the Bonn Parliament, and its execution, must be prevented with all means of extreme national resistance."

The Central Board of the Communist Party of Germany issued a "call" to the "people of Germany," stating that signing of the pact "means . . . a fratricidal war."

Walter Ulbricht went even further in a speech at a congress of the German Youth Organization, telling the gathering they

must "learn from the Chinese and Korean peace fighters."

In face of the spectre of civil war thus raised by the Stalinists and the apparently irreversible decision of the Truman administration to keep stepping up the tempo of the cold war regardless of consequences, the capitalist press, reported widespread "doubts and reservations" about the newly signed contract.

"There is no indication that any bonfires were lit in Paris or London," says the June 4 Wall Street Journal.

And according to the N. Y. Post, the "UN Shudders, Sees War Peril in Bonn Pact." The reaction of the UN delegates gives a good indication of the fears of the capitalist classes abroad who find themselves dragged like helpless satellites in the orbit of American imperialism. They see, that the signing of the Bonn pact, even though it has not yet been ratified is a new long step toward a catastrophic conflict that can mean their end.

The State Department, however, while it makes concessions to the mood of these satellite powers, drags them ruthlessly down the main strategic road. And just as ruthlessly, it is trying to over-ride the will of the German people, who do not want the experience of another imperialist war.

Before the pact was signed by Adenauer, the German people had already indicated through demonstrations in many cities that they are utterly opposed to the agreement. The impressive growth of the Social Democratic party in the past period because of its opposition to the rearmament policy of the Bonn regime is a measure of the depth of the anti-war sentiment in Germany.

Drive Against French CP Part of Pentagon War Plan

The French Pinay government, pushed by the Truman administration drive towards war, has opened a dictatorial terrorist drive to suppress the French Communist Party. Pinay has arrested Jacques Duclos, head of the party which represents one-fourth of the French people in the Chamber of Deputies. Andres Stil, editor of the C.P.'s paper, L'Humanite, and hundreds of workers who participated in demonstrations against General Ridgway's arrival in Europe on May 28.

The government drive against the largest party in France was already under way some months back. Last February 20, 265 workers at the giant Renault auto plant, most of them members of the French C.P. and some of them Trotskyist militants, were fired from their jobs and a number of energetic struggles against the firings have not yet succeeded in restoring them to their jobs. This move in a chief C.P. stronghold was a direct challenge to the C.P. and signaled the opening of the offensive.

Reports indicate that in the face of this offensive, and hindered by their false policy of a "peace" appeal to the French capitalist class, the C.P. was losing ground seriously. This loss of ground was shown by membership and vote declines, falling off of the circulation of the C.P. press and similar symptoms.

Alarmed by this decline, and alarmed also by the progress of the Pentagon war drive as marked in the signing of the

Bonn agreement for the anti-Soviet rearming of West Germany, the C.P. leaders called for a turn to the left. An article in the May issue of Cahiers du Communisme by Francois Billoux, C.P.F. political bureau member "warned against any tendencies to dream of a 'National union' of the capitalists, the middle classes and the workers . . . and the perspective is therefore the fight for peace through a complete change of policy opening further to the struggle for Socialism itself."

With this left turn, the C.P. apparently hoped to stimulate the fight against the arming of Germany and by means of militant actions to recoup its losses in morale and strength. But hardly had it begun the course of action indicated by the Billoux article, than the Pinay ministry under Pentagon prodding opened its bitter anti-labor offensive.

The arrest of Duclos and the raids of C.P. headquarters, suppression of C.P. papers, etc., are opening up class battles in France that are extremely important for workers in all countries. Should the French capitalists succeed in smashing the most powerful antiwar party in France, this would undoubtedly hasten the coming of World War III.

Notebook of an Agitator

FALSE WITNESS

Experience over the ages has taught most people that it is imprudent to trust the unsupported word of a police informer against another person or persons who may have been associated with him. There is always a suspicion that he may be lying to save his own skin, or otherwise to benefit at the expense of others. So far as criminal cases are concerned, this well-grounded skepticism has been crystallized into the legal maxim that the testimony of an accomplice is inadmissible as evidence without independent corroboration. This principle of law should be extended to impose a double caution with regard to the testimony of an informer who swiches sides in a social conflict and stands to benefit from his apostasy.

The many perjuries admitted by Whittaker Chambers under cross-examination in the Hiss case raised an uneasy doubt in the public mind over the value of any of his testimony. Is his evidence against Communism any more trustworthy? There seem to be widespread doubts about this too; and Chambers has now offered a book of 800 pages in an effort to dispel them. This book, "Witness," is being highly touted by the beneficiaries of privilege and their literary apologists who badly need a believable witness against Communism. The unprecedented advertising and publicity campaign behind it is designed to make an impression by sheer volume. Chambers is recommended as a "sincere" witness whose numerous admitted lies in the past should not be held against him, and as an authentic ex-Communist who has finally seen the light and now recognizes that the present social system, being designed by God, should not be tampered with.

Chambers' record, however, does not justify such a recommendation. He does not tell the truth about his time in the Communist Party, nor about the reasons for his long delay in breaking with it, nor about the motivation for the break when it occurred in 1938. "Witness" is an attempt to rewrite the actual record in terms more suitable to his role of convert touched, as he claims, by the finger of God and, by special dispensation, getting his reward without waiting for the next world.

Chambers' Early Record

I wrote last week that Chambers "was never a Communist as he pretends, but merely a Stalinist who consciously practiced the Stalinist methods of double-dealing and betrayal." Formally speaking, the first half of that sentence was a slight exaggeration. The second half, however, needs no amendment. Chambers joined the Communist Party in 1925 when the process of Stalinization was far from completed and a party member had a right to think he was a Communist, or wanted to become one. But American Communism was then already in the grip of an internal crisis which had its source in the creeping degeneration. As in all political organizations, the principal issues at stake, first latent but eventually clearly defined, could not be resolved otherwise than by factional struggle.

Every party member worth his salt took a position and took part in these factional conflicts. Chambers piously explains that he stood aloof from all the factions and stayed away from unit meetings in order to avoid involvement. That says a lot about the seriousness of his membership in the party, but somewhat discredits his present claim to give an accurate report of what happened there. He took no risks and accepted no consequences. When American Communism was fighting for its life in the factional struggles of those years, he was a bystander. Chambers does not write about the experiences of those times with the authority of a participant.

A Revealing Incident

He took no part, but as the factional struggles came to climax and split, he had an interest and sympathy which he lacked the moral courage to act upon. Even worse, he befouled his sympathy with a petty betrayal. Shortly after we were expelled from the party in 1928 because of our support of Trotsky and the Russian Opposition, Chambers furtively expressed interest and sympathy with our cause. We had an important document in German — Trotsky's appeal to the Sixth Congress of the Comintern — which we wanted to publish. Shachtman showed Chambers the document. He read it, expressed interest and offered to translate it for us so that we could publish it in *The Militant*.

Shachtman gave him the copy, the only copy

we had, and that's the last we ever saw of it. We waited impatiently for the translation to be completed, but heard nothing from Chambers. Finally Shachtman called him up and asked when the translation would be ready. Chambers answered that he had turned it over to the Central Committee of the CP. A small incident, perhaps, but more revealing for the judgment of a man's character than 800 pages of self-serving apology.

Excuses Slaughter of Old Bolsheviks

In the fateful years 1936-37, the years of the Moscow Trials and Purges, when the old guard Bolsheviks who had really borne witness for Communism were being framed and slaughtered because they were Communists, Chambers held his peace and continued to serve the dominant power — the Stalinist murderers and their GPU. Now that he has gone home hog in his "conversion" to another power, he tries to wash out the truth about that awful time and to exculpate himself in the process. He dumps the Stalinists and the Trotskyists, the traitors and the revolutionaries, the murderers and the victims, into one sack. The issues between them, drawn by a great river of blood, were "merely quarrels over a road map." Going beyond the boundaries of shame, this "witness" for God's Justice even excuses the slaughter of the irreproachable Old Bolsheviks. "Acting as a Communist, Stalin had acted rightly." That's what Chambers says now.

But that's not the way I heard it the first time. Chambers knew the truth about the Moscow Trials. And that is what bothered him, as it was bound to bother anyone with a glimmer of Communist conscience. This is clear even from his own back-written, doctored-up account of his first reaction to the trials. Listing the names of the most prominent victims, he inadvertently remarks: "The charge, on which they were one and all destroyed, the charge that they had betrayed their handiwork, was incredible. They were the Communist Party." The Moscow Trials, not the afterthought about God and the FBI, are what moved Chambers finally, after two years of intellectualistic mulling and moping, to break with the Stalinist apparatus in 1938.

We knew about it first for the simple reason that, after his break with the GPU, he came to us first — to us and to others who had cooperated to expose and discredit the Moscow Trials, those who had spoken out against that infamy when he had remained silent in the service of its monstrous authors. He didn't go to the Church, or the Quaker Meeting House, or the FBI; he came to us. He expressed, and no doubt felt, a great admiration for Trotsky as the incorruptible representative of the Communist faith which Chambers imagined that he also possessed. The question was: What to do about it?

Didn't Have What It Takes

We did not represent a power of the present — only a program by means of which a future power can and will be created through struggle against any odds whatever. We didn't have much to offer him but a part in the struggle for ideas as a member of an isolated and persecuted minority. Chambers didn't have what it takes for that. That would have meant, in deed and not in pretentious rhetoric, to be a witness, to "testify for his faith, disregarding all risks, accepting all consequences," as Chambers wrote in his book without understanding what it really means.

Chambers had spent the best years of his life as a functionary in the service of a power of the present represented by the Stalinist GPU. A struggle to create a new power of the future was beyond his capacity, perhaps even beyond his comprehension. He really didn't know what it meant to be a genuine Communist in this country, with the corruption of Stalinism on one side and the power of bourgeois society on the other. When the showdown came at the turning point of his life, after a couple of years of mawkish indecision, he switched his allegiance to another power of the present represented by the FBI, with God rung in for moral support. There, in a nutshell, is the life story of Whittaker Chambers. All that is left out of his autobiography which purports to be a full and true confession. That is why the whole book is a lie. It is not a "witness" against Communism but against Chambers and all his ilk, and against a social system in decay which can find no better heroes.

— J. P. C.

Far More Rapid Growth Seen for Soviet Than U.S.

By Harry Frankel

Powerful testimony to the superiority of planned economy over capitalism came recently from two American anti-Communist sources. American experts have forecast that the rate of growth of Soviet economy will be about 2½ times as rapid as the rate of growth of the American economy during the next two decades.

A group of American economists and government researchers, meeting at Harriman, N. Y., on May 25, predicted that the Soviet Union, at its present rate of growth and barring a major war, will double present production levels by 1970. This is about 45% increase each decade.

The other forecast came from the McGraw Hill Department of Economics, which predicted earlier last month that the U.S. industrial production index would rise from 1951 level of 220 (1935-39 = 100) to about 260 by 1960. This would be a rate of growth of about 18% per decade, or two-fifths the predicted Soviet rate of growth.

The American experts on Russia were forced to draw their remarkable conclusion on future

Soviet economic growth by the amazing past record of the Russian economic system. Despite bureaucratic privileges and mismanagement, despite the terrible debilitating effect of the repeated purges of leading industrial personnel, despite the dictatorial regime which has robbed the Soviet masses of direct participation in planning, despite all these things, the system of nationalized industry, collectivized agriculture and state planning has shown an enormous superiority to capitalist economy during the 35 years of its existence.

EARLY PERIOD

The growth of Soviet economy falls into four main stages. In the first stage, from 1917 to 1927-28, the Soviet Union struggled to return its production to the pre-World War I level. It achieved this goal about a year or two before the beginning of the great depression in the capitalist world.

During this same period, the capitalist countries of Europe also brought their production up to 1914 levels. However, the Soviet Union labored under far greater difficulties in this task.

War destruction was infinitely greater in Russia than anywhere else, and afterwards, Russia was impeded by a famine, a civil war, and an organized blockade. In the light of these facts, the Soviet achievement during the first decade was enormous. It must also be added that this achievement was made despite the refusal of the Stalin leadership to adopt the policy of industrialization put forward by the Trotskyist Left Opposition. Had these proposals been followed, the achievement would have undoubtedly been even greater, and would have paved the way for greater successes in the next period.

SECOND PERIOD

In 1928, Russia had reached 1914 production levels, and, like Czarist Russia, accounted for about 4% of world production. But during the next dozen years after an industrialization policy was adopted, there was a vast development of Soviet industry in the same period that capitalist industry stagnated and declined in the depression. It has been estimated that in the 12 years from 1928 to 1940, Russia achieved results many times as great as those attained by capitalism in the fifty years from the liberation of the serfs to the beginning of the first world war. By 1939, the Soviet Union accounted for 12% of world production as compared to 4% only 11 years earlier.

In 1928, the Soviet Union ranked among the lowest of all European powers in industrial production. By the time the second world war opened, Russia had outstripped every country of the globe except the U.S. and Germany. For a few years before Hitler got his war economy rolling, Russian production even exceeded that of Germany.

SOVIET WAR LOSSES

In the next period of Russian development, the years of the second world war, fantastic destruction of the means of production took place. Russia suffered more in every respect than any other nation during the war, with the possible exception of Yugoslavia. Russian manpower losses were more than eight times as great as the combined losses of all her allies. They were almost twice as great as the combined losses of all the leading capitalist nations engaged in the war on both sides of the battle-lines. The destruction of factories, mills, mines, etc., was comparable. Thus at the end of the war, Russian production was about 40% lower than peacetime production in 1940, while United States production, unscathed by the war, was about 50% higher than 1940 levels.

However, while production as a whole was thrown far back in Russia during the war, an important development of industry in the Asiatic region beyond the Urals took place. Thousands of factories were moved to the Trans-Ural region, and many new enterprises built. The result was that these newly industrialized Eastern regions alone produced in 1943 more than the whole of Russia in 1915.

POST-WAR RECOVERY

Russian industrial output again started its expansion in the fourth phase of development, the years since the war. From a low of 58% of the 1940 level in 1945, it rose to almost 150% of 1940 production by 1950. Furthermore, the USSR has become the second largest producer on the globe, below only the U.S., which passed through both world wars unscathed. This rise from the lowest rank to second place, which took place in a period of 3½ decades and was impeded by a terrible war and by the cutting off of capital imports from the rest of the world, is an unprecedented accomplishment.

The great vindication of the Russian Revolution on the production front was not accomplished without serious internal difficulties. The Stalinist bureaucracy leaped from anti-industrialization to super-industrialization, from anti-collectivization to agriculture to forced collectivization. The political purges, and destruction of workers' democracy and labor participation in planning had a great retarding effect. It is certain that the steady and democratic line of construction advocated by Trotsky would have yielded far greater results. The greater surplus could have then been used either to raise the standard of living of the masses or to speed up the industrial growth, or a combination of both.

However, the salient fact is that the nationalized economy proved its worth beyond any question even under conditions of internal hindrance and external sabotage and destruction.

Quick Change Artists



When the government "turned back" the railroads to the private owners, the only difference was in the wardrobe of the rail executives. They made a quick change from army attire to civilian clothes, but this didn't hide the fact that whether in their own name or the name of the government, the railroad bosses gave the workers a dirty deal.

Red Cross Hints Force Used In Screening of Prisoners

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use of force in the "screenings." The bulk of the report is made up of an account of the Feb. 18 slaughter on Kojé Island. Sixty-nine PW's were killed in this massacre, and 142 wounded.

PRISONERS OPPOSED SCREENING

As revealed by the Red Cross, the story of this event is as follows: PW's were screened in section 62 of the Kojé camp, and the announced result of this screening was that many of them did not want to go back to North Korea. However, many prisoners later said they did want to go back, repudiating what they had said, or had been reported to say, in the original screening operation. The camp authorities then announced they would "rescreen" the captives, but the "internees were definitely opposed to this," in the words of the Red Cross. "The trusted spokesman (of the prisoners) told the Red Cross delegates that the internees would not allow themselves to be questioned anew, alleging that pressure had been brought to bear on them during their first interrogation."

Meanwhile, a demonstration with songs, speeches and banners, agreed to by the camp authorities, took place in this same compound on February 8, in celebration of the anniversary of the Korean People's Army. Practically all the 6,000 PW's in the compound took part in this meeting, thus showing their adherence to the North Korea regime.

The camp authorities moved, early on the morning of Feb. 18, to carry out their "rescreening" in their own way, over the protests of the prisoners. A force of soldiers in full battle array (almost a regiment, the Red Cross reports) moved upon the compound at 4 a.m. on the morning of Feb. 18. Then with fixed bayonets, they drove all prison-

ers into the tents. After this, they opened fire on any prisoners who came out. This created the impression that they were beginning a slaughter, and the alarmed prisoners began pouring out of the tents. The massacre, in which only one soldier was killed, followed.

No War Pact, Say Germans in Poll

An important Gallup poll taken recently in West Germany indicates the opposition of the majority of the people to the Washington program for integration of West Germany into the anti-Soviet war alliance. This poll was suppressed in the American press and the following account is taken from a French magazine. To the question: Unification or integration, which is more important? 55% said unification with East Germany while only 27% thought integration into the war pact came first. To the question: Do you favor German divisions in the European Army? 39% said No and 38% Yes.

When asked: Do you think it more important that the Germans come to agreement with the Americans or that they be neutral? only 30% were for agreement while 48% voted for neutrality. And finally, when asked: Would you like to become a soldier again or would you like your son or husband to become one? 13% said Yes while a heavy 75% answered No.

The American Way of Life

'Lay Down and Die'

"Happy days are here to stay for quite a while." So says the optimistic U.S. News and World Report. They mean by this that business is enjoying prosperous times.

But there is no equality of happiness. The other day the New York Municipal Civil Service Commission announced that they had 37 charwomen jobs open. Not very fancy jobs and not very fancy pay — about \$44 a week, for a full time job of scrubbing and cleaning. You wouldn't think that many people would want such jobs. But over a thousand middle-aged women were desperately eager to be one of the 37 lucky ones. Some stood in line all night.

Mrs. Melvina H. Grant of Brooklyn was one of those who put in an all-night vigil. "I wanted to be here first," she said. "If I'm not early, I don't get the job. I'm going to sit right here on this stool I bought and wait and pray I get the job. I have a daughter, 5, to support."

This is the way the N. Y. Post reported the story on May 27. The others in line also had their comments to make.

Mrs. Frances Doebele, also of Brooklyn, was in line about 20 hours. "If you want a job," she said, "you got to suffer. When you have children, you'll do many things. My husband's a railroad porter, but one man's salary is not enough when you have a daughter in high school and you want to raise your children properly."

"I used to do clerical work," she said, "but they don't seem to want women over 40 any more. What are people like us supposed to do?"

Wait in line, Mrs. Doebele, and maybe they'll find a place for you in this best of all possible lands. Pretty soon you can send a son or two to Korea, and lighten your burden.

Mrs. Nora Costello said she

used to work in a factory. "But I was laid off in February because I was too old. Most places don't want you if you're over 35. What are we supposed to do? Lay down and die?"

Be careful, Mrs. Costello, you may be hauled before the Senate Un-American Activities committee if you talk like that.

Most of these job-seeking women told similar stories. They had families to support. But they had been cast aside by the bosses as too old. "I used to be in the needle trades," said Mrs. Mary Schurr, 62 years old, of Brooklyn, "and I want to work for my living. . . but now they're hiring younger people."

The Civil Service Commissioner said he regretted the ladies had to stand in line so long. He suggested maybe they would make the jobs competitive and give tests. That would be a great help. Then the thousand unemployed mothers could take a written exam on which of them deserve to have the 37 jobs.

When you read about prosperity in this country, keep these women in mind. There are hundreds of thousands like them from coast to coast. And plenty of discarded men, too.

"Happy days" has two meanings under capitalism. For the rich it means cost-plus contracts, it means high profits, it means the right to exploit workers under protection of government injunctions anti-labor laws.

For people like Mrs. Schurr and Mrs. Grant, it means that maybe they'll be one of the lucky 37 who get a job scrubbing the steps at City Hall.

That's the American Way.

— Joseph Andrews

THE MILITANT ARMY

WEST COAST SCOREBOARD

San Francisco	Points
1,697	
Eastside Los Angeles	1,293
Oakland	1,289
San Pedro	995
Seattle	690
Westside Los Angeles	598
Southside Los Angeles	262

The West Coast competition for Militant subscriptions gained momentum this week with a good increase in scores shown by nearly all branches. San Francisco maintained its position in first place with a gain of 371 points over their score of last week. The Eastside branch of Los Angeles, however, made the most dramatic gain of the week. Pushing ahead of Seattle, San Pedro and Oakland, it is now only 35 points behind San Francisco and first place position.

San Francisco writes that their sub drive "is going very well — the best drive we've had in several years. For the purpose of fostering healthy competition, the San Francisco Branch, which is one team in the coast-wide competition, was further divided into two teams, the Lora (Bolivia) Team and the Rene-Liou Team. So far the Lora Team is ahead with 965 points. The Rene-Liou Team has 732 points.

West Coast high scorers are as follows: Frank K., Oakland, 995 points; John, Los Angeles, 364; Dave, Los Angeles, 239; E. Harris, San Francisco, 194; Jackie, San Francisco, 194; Frank B., San Francisco, 187; Bill K., Oakland, 164; Mert, San Francisco, 154; Jane S., San Francisco, 154.

The Minneapolis campaign for Militant subscriptions is still going at top speed. Literature Agent Helen S. writes, "Seventeen more subs for the third week of our local campaign. Ten of these are new. With each week we are getting a number of new readers, and that is the main object of our campaign. Our slogan, you recall, is 'Make More Minnesota Militants in May' and all of our team members are pitching in to Sell Socialism and to Sell Subs. The team scores are the following: Lavender Hill Mob, 23 points; Debs Banner Bearers, 16; Campus Campaigners, 13; Northside Tornadoes, 13; and the Portland Promoters, 11.

"The Mob, taking advantage of every opportunity, cornered an

old friend from out of town, last week, who brought in three subs for them. The Debs Banner Bearers for the first time, have relinquished first place to the enterprising Lavender Hill Mob, whose leading sub-getters are Donald and Ray. The Campus Campaigners are doing very well with getting new subs and have challenged the other teams on that basis. The Tornadoes and the Portland Promoters are promising to make news in the next report. High scorers are Larry, nine points; Donald, eight points; and Ray, six points. One point is scored for every six months sub."

Anne C. reports that Philadelphia has launched a six weeks campaign for Militant subscriptions. "Howard and Clara are in charge," she writes, "and they have plans to put lots ofumph into it to make it a great success. We will end the drive with a social in honor of the winning half of the branch to be given by the losing half."

Many thanks to H. P. of Toledo, Ohio, who writes, "Please renew my subscription for a year. The other \$3 is a donation to The Militant. Keep up the good work!"

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The Man in the White Suit

THE MAN IN THE WHITE SUIT. Starring Alec Guinness. Produced by J. Arthur Rank.

This film is in the rare tradition of authentic social satire. It is a reminder of the comic irony inherent in the irrational system of industrial capitalism.

Like all true satire, the theme is simple. It describes the complete dismay and desperation of a group of English textile tycoons when confronted with a terrifying threat to their profits: an invention cooked up by a humble chemist making available to humanity a totally indestructible, soil-proof cloth.

The young genius, played with great skill by the versatile actor Alec Guinness, is at first ridiculed and scorned by the textile magnates. But finally one manufacturer, greedily anticipating a complete monopoly of the miracle

cloth, gives him a laboratory in which to work his molecular wonders.

His experiments crowned with success, the chemist is fitted out with the first suit made of the everlasting materials. The suit is white, and tests show, a million times stronger than nylon.

Once the word gets out, the big guns of the textile business descend upon the plant where the new cloth is about to be put into production. A few well-chosen words, and threats, convince the employer of the well-meaning chemist that the invention must be suppressed, lest the whole textile kingdom fall.

But the scientist, not concerned either with the profits of the mill owners, nor for that matter with the ultimate social benefits of a cloth that will free the housewife from her washing, and the workman from the economic pinch of constantly replacing worn-out clothes, insists that his miraculous discovery be produced.

From that moment on his life is in danger. A pack of madmen industrialists, bent on mayhem, chase him through the town. Leading the chase is the patriarch of the industry, a senile, half-dead duplicate of John D. Rockefeller the elder, who summons remarkable energy when called upon to defend the wealth of his class against the threat of scientific progress.

The textile workers, at first much taken with the idea of cloth that doesn't have to be washed and will never wear out, realize that should it be produced it would in six months mean an end to their employment. So they join in the hunt to destroy The Man in the White Suit. And, so long as workers are dependent on private industry for employment, this is completely logical.

The parallel with the not-so-comic suppression of the benefits of atomic energy is quite clear. What gives this comedy its bite is its source in current reality.

It is refreshing to see a film which depicts the enemies of human progress not as dreamed-up spies of a "foreign power," not as "red agents," but the capitalist class, which will defend its privileges against every social advance which touches their pocketbooks.

Needless to say, this film could not be made in Hollywood. It violates the unwritten code which says that the capitalist must be sympathetically presented as the kindly benefactor of humanity.

Theatergoers who see the meaning of this excellent film, may very well draw the conclusion that it is high time we called "the man in the white suit" to put a straitjacket on the madmen who stand in the way of science.

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Whose Government?

There isn't enough money in the world to buy the army of thugs and scabs needed to break the picket lines in Pittsburgh, Gary, South Chicago, Youngstown or Bethlehem.

If the steel workers met the companies in a head-on fight they would have won their demands long ago. A handful of corporation executives would look pretty silly trying to buck the million-strong United Steelworkers of America.

But for several years now the workers have been faced with a different kind of strikebreaker — the kind who is paid by the taxpayers, sports the title of congressman and senator, and busts picket lines with laws instead of goons.

The government is in a conspiracy with Big Business against labor. Right now half a dozen Congressional committees are competing with one another to see who can come up first with a way to break the steel strike.

Labor must seriously put the question: Whose government is this? Every agency of government from the executive, to the courts, to Congress, not to mention all the boards, have been used to stall the steelworkers' demands, then whittle them down, and finally to prevent them from using their only real weapon, the right to strike.

It's an illusion to think the government is an impartial mediator between capital and labor. The labor movement has to face up to the fact the power in Washington is completely in the service of the monopolists. The steel crisis is only the latest and most sinister move in the "get tough" policy directed against labor.

The steelworkers would have been ahead of the game had they stuck to the principle "no contract, no work" after the first of January. Congressmen can't run the mills.

Even more important is the need to face the political reality. Depending on "friends" in the government has not paid off for the steelworkers any more than it did for the railroad workers.

Labor needs its own political party which can mobilize the gigantic power of the workers. Only in this way can the American people get dependable representation in Congress and oust the labor haters.

A labor party based on the unions, with the aim of achieving a labor government in the United States, is the only effective answer to the anti-labor offensive of the corporations and their flunkie Congress.

Rhee Exposes the Big Lie

If there are any who still believe that the Truman administration is "saving democracy" in Korea, they should take a good look at the recent antics of the puppet-ruler of South Korea.

On Sunday, May 25, President Syngman Rhee imposed martial law and detained one-fourth of the National Assembly, alleging a "communist plot." The real reason, as the whole capitalist press admits, is the opposition of the National Assembly to re-election of the dictator.

Eight of the "detained" legislators were arrested, and another twenty went into hiding to avoid arrest. For several days, the Assembly could not get the required quorum of 92 out of 183 members.

When the Assembly did meet on May 28, it voted 96 to 3 to lift martial law. Under the Constitution, this makes it mandatory on the Government to revoke the martial law decree. Rhee ignored the vote.

On May 29, Vice-President Kim Sung Soo tendered his resignation to the Assembly, in protest against Rhee's "assault on the Constitution." The United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea pleaded with Rhee to release the arrested Assemblymen. He refused, saying "more arrests can be expected."

True to his word, Rhee arrested more Assemblymen, bringing the total to 12, and arrested 11 other Koreans, charging them with a plot to assassinate him. Thirty members of the Assembly locked themselves in the Assembly hall overnight to avoid arrest, and many continued that practice on subsequent nights. Arrested Assemblymen were held without charges.

On June 2, Rhee was reported ready to close the Assembly, and a battalion of national police arrived in Pusan "to attend a police convention." The houses of leading Assemblymen were searched during the night.

When the U.N. urged an end to the scandal, Rhee came back with the charge that his allies were "interfering in internal affairs." U.S. Army General Clark rushed down to Pusan, conferred with Rhee, and beat a hasty retreat. Clark said he didn't want to "interfere" at all. So long as Rhee did not bring any troops from the front, everything was all right with the General.

It was only when Truman himself, in a personal note, urged Rhee to take it easy that Rhee indicated he would slow down. Whether he will or not remains to be seen.

This is only a partial account of the recent activities of a two-bit Hitler who was decisively rejected by the voters of South Korea in the last free election held prior to the outbreak of war. Rhee was saved from the dustbin of history by American bayonets in June 1950. If the U.S. Army ever acceded to Rhee's demand for no "meddling in internal affairs," Rhee wouldn't last 10 days. That is why he has repeatedly said he is against a truce.

Can anyone see any "democracy" to defend in this government? Twenty thousand Americans have died defending it, and millions have been slaughtered in the process. The U.S. capitalists will not escape answering for this crime.

Militarism Tightens Grip on U.S.

The brazen attempt by powerful banking and industrial interests to put the professional militarist General Eisenhower in the White House symbolizes the already far-advanced drive to place the American people under the military boot and to militarize all aspects of American life.

This process of Prussianizing the United States, of subordinating its economic, social, cultural and political activities and institutions to the military machine, is graphically summarized in a memorandum entitled "The Ascendancy of the Military in American Life," by E. Raymond Wilson, executive secretary, Friends Committee on National Legislation.

Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon inserted Wilson's illuminating report in the May 23 Congressional Record. Here are some of the facts which Wilson presents:

A high percentage of the working population — perhaps as much as 20 per cent — is engaged directly in war-connected activities. Men and women in the Armed Forces number 3,500,000, with an authorized ceiling of 5,000,000. Out of 2,530,891 civilian employees in the executive branch of the government, some 51% — 1,295,619 — were on the payroll of the Defense Establishment as of Feb. 1952. This does not include the 215,882 civilian employees of such agencies as the Atomic Energy Commission, Veterans Administration, Mutual Security Agency, "emergency agencies," etc.

The combined figures are greater than the peak of civilian employees in war-connected agencies during World War II, on June 30, 1945, when the number was 1,487,599.

There are an additional 297,844 in the Reserve Officers Training (ROTC) in the schools and colleges. The total of the National Guards and Organized Reserves (not including ROTC) is estimated for 1953 at 769,145.

BARELY STARTING

How great a role military spending plays in the economy (a



GEN. EISENHOWER

primary factor in price inflation, consumer shortages, etc.) is indicated by the federal budget for 1952, totalling \$84,260,000,000. About 71% is for direct military spending and only \$13,565,000,000 for all "non-defense" purposes of federal government. The military budget does not include the billions spent for A-bomb and H-bomb development, nor the costs of the Korean War, nor the billions appropriated for the building of U.S. military bases abroad.

The Wilson report quotes U.S. News and World Report on the scope of the arms industry: "No other industry in the country is as large as that planned permanently for armament. The \$40,000,000,000-a-year value of this industry's output equals more than a fourth of all the money that people spend a year in retail stores. Moreover, the arms industry is still an infant industry, barely starting to grow."

ANNAPOLIS LAUNDRY BILL

Some very minor expenditures illustrate the gigantic waste and voracity of the military machine. In fiscal 1952, for instance, the

American people were charged \$9,274,725 for packing and crating of household goods for the naval shore establishment. The cost of laundry service alone at Annapolis Naval Academy is estimated this year at \$378,441. By way of comparison "the bill to increase the amount spent on books for the blind to \$250,000 was not acted on in this Congress, and this amount remains \$125,000; the Woman's Bureau last year received \$379,285."

The military exercise a decisive weight not only on domestic but on foreign policy. U.S. military missions or bases are being maintained in some 55 countries around the world, on every continent, and from the Arctic to the Antarctic.

BRASS HAT POLITICIANS

An article by pro-war Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., in the April 1 Reporter, is quoted by Wilson to sum up the role of the generals in policy-making. Schlesinger admitted: "... The novelty today lies not in having professional generals venture forth as free lances in political campaigns, but in having them as established authorities on policy, accepted in the highest national councils and held accountable in the most solemn national debates. Marshall, Eisenhower, MacArthur, Bradley — these men have dominated the whole postwar process of policy-making as generals never have before in our history."

SIGN AWAY RIGHTS

One of the most disturbing and shocking sections of the report concerns "Military Indoctrination and Influence on the Public Mind." Not only does the officers' corps seek to fashion millions of soldiers under military orders to machine-like discipline and slavish obedience, but "the influence of the military regimen does not end with their control over the minds of the men in service."

"Citizens working for the

armed services must also follow authority and relinquish some of their democratic rights. The Washington Evening Star on April 9, 1952, reports that following thefts of equipment at the Navy Ammunition Depot at Hingham, Mass., employees, under penalty of dismissal, were required to sign a waiver which began: 'I hereby voluntarily waive my immunities under the fourth and fifth amendments to the Constitution of the United States.'"

The report notes that these amendments guarantee every American citizen protection against illegal search and seizure and provide that no one shall be compelled to be a witness against himself or be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. As a result of overwhelming protest, the Navy finally rescinded the order, "though they did not issue an apology, as far as we know from press reports, nor discipline the officers responsible."

Along with their anti-democratic doctrines, the professional militarists are seeking to glorify war to whip up the "esprit de corps" of the soldiers. Thus, on the eve of the assault on Seoul in Korea, Brig. Gen. Lewis B. Fuller of the U.S. Marines harangued his men as follows:

"BY THE SWORD"

"We are the most fortunate of men. There was a time when a professional soldier had to wait 25 years or so before he ever got into a war. We only had to wait 5 years for this one. For all that time we have been sitting on our fat behinds drawing our pay. Now we are going to earn it. We are going to work at our trade. We have chosen to live by the sword. If necessary, we will die by the sword."

Even in wartime, of course, most of the Big Brass continue to "sit on our fat behinds drawing our pay." It is true that they "live by the sword," but the men who "die by the sword" are the unwilling draftees dragged

into the armed forces by compulsory laws.

BEACHHEAD IN SCHOOLS

This Gen. Fuller type of mind, which glories in the fact that "we can work at our trade" of mass slaughter, is becoming a dominant influence in the schools and colleges and in the scientific research agencies. The Army ROTC estimates an annual enrollment of 211,593 students; the Navy ROTC, 14,713; and the Air Force ROTC, 92,445.

More and more, colleges are becoming dependent on financial assistance and subsidies from the military establishments. An example is given in a report of the President of DePauw University, who wrote: "... The Navy helped pay the salary of the library staff, the physical-education staff, the registrar's staff, the dean's office, besides a very good part of the salary of many of our professors. They paid a

3% administrative cost. They paid for the maintenance of the facilities they used; they helped pay for heat, light, janitors. They paid the insurance on the buildings they used. They paid 4 per cent on the book value of the buildings they used for Navy purposes."

Nearly a billion and a half dollars will be expended by the Department of Defense for research and development. The Navy alone has research contracts with about 250 universities. "The expenditures of this huge sum of money by the military must, of necessity, result in great influence over all forms of research throughout the United States," the Wilson report concludes.

Thus, the very roots of knowledge and progress — education and research — are being poisoned today by the militarists. Nothing points more sharply to the deadly menace of capitalist militarism in America.

Cops Club German Workers



The West German workers, aroused by the U.S. dictated "contract" with Adenauer, are here shown demonstrating against a new anti-labor bill designed to stifle the effectiveness of militant unions. To these German workers the partition of their country and the armaments program means economic misery, and another destructive war.

U. S. State Department Finally Recognizes Bolivian Government

On June 2, the U.S. State Department finally recognized the Bolivian government which came into power through a revolutionary mass uprising April 11. The imperialists in Washington found themselves able to stall no longer when Brazil, Chile and Peru recognized the Bolivian regime last week. In addition Bolivia has received recognition from Colombia and Ecuador as well as from France and Britain. The real reason for the almost two months' delay was an attempt by the Truman administration to prevent Bolivia's nationalizing its tin mines. On June 2 the Associated Press flatly stated that "The U.S. has delayed recognition mainly because of worry about what the new government might do about Bolivia's strategic tin resources."

Meanwhile the Bolivian government has appointed a 10-man commission, headed by Manuel Barran, which has been instructed to work out within the next 120 days plans for nationalizing the tin mines owned by Aramayo, Hoescheld and Patiño. American capitalists hold a big portion of tin stocks.

On June 3 the Bolivian government announced a state monopoly on all exports of tin and other mineral ores. All future exports will be bought and sold by the state through the Miners Bank. All exports to the U.S. must have special approval of Juan Lechin, Mines and Petroleum Minister, and "any one obtaining dollars must explain within 180 days how they were used," reported the United Press.

RULING CEYLON PARTY WINS RIGGED GENERAL ELECTIONS

According to cables from Ceylon, the general elections which took place there on May 26 to May 30 have been successfully rigged, apparently even beyond the expectations of the reigning capitalist party, the United National Party. The UNP chalked up 54 seats, a gain of 15 as compared with the previous election in 1947; plus 6 additional seats, which are not elected but appointed to the 101-man Parliament to "represent minorities."

The Lanka Sama Samaja Party, the Ceylonese revolutionary socialists who constitute the largest mass opposition party, was whittled down to 9 seats, a loss of 5. The Sri Lanka Freedom Party, organized by the former Health Minister Bandaranaike who broke with the UNP government last year, obtained 9 seats.

The Stalinists, who persistently rejected LSSP offers of a united left bloc in the elections, got 2 seats, a loss of 1. The remainder was scattered among various Independents and minority parties. As reported by The Militant on May 12, one of the brazen devices used by the UNP to

rig the elections was the disfranchisement of some 800,000 Indian-born citizens, the bulk of whom are tea and rubber plantation workers. This directly involved 7 seats overwhelmingly dominated by this workers' vote, and it had a marked effect in other constituencies. In the flush of victory, Prime Minister Dudley Senanayake boasted that this disfranchisement "undoubtedly reduced the leftist vote," according to the Ceylon correspondent of the N. Y. Times on June 1.

When the call for the general elections was issued the Samasamajist, English weekly of the LSSP, warned on April 9 that the UNP would abuse "the state power in its hands" and through the backing of "the big magnates, the large estate owners, the big wholesale merchants, the industrialists and even foreign agencies like the American Embassy, the UNP government will have at its command vast sums of money which will be freely expended on a flood of literature, of cars, bus loads of imperators, gallons of arrack (native whisky) and all the other weapons of reaction that money can buy."

Siqueiros Protests too Much

By Joseph Hansen

According to the May 30 Daily Worker, New York mouthpiece of the Kremlin, "Wide sections of the Mexican public are seething with indignation at the action of a French art magazine in characterizing David Alfaro Siqueiros, great Mexican Communist artist, as a 'murderer.'"

The magazine, "Arts," commenting on an exposition of Mexican art in Paris, said (again according to the Daily Worker):

"The only serious fault in this fabulous exposition is the presence of a murderer, David Alfaro Siqueiros, who leaves a trail of blood."

The Stalinist propaganda rag then adds its comment: "This was an echo of the Trotskyite charge that Siqueiros participated in an attempt to assassinate Leon Trotsky in 1940 in which Robert Sheldon Harte lost his life. This slander against Siqueiros was aired in the Mexican courts and was eventually dismissed."

The Daily Worker then reports that Siqueiros "announced he planned" to sue for defamation and Siqueiros' "colleague," Diego Rivera, "denounced" the statement in the Paris art magazine as "the most shameful, dirtiest and lowest that has been made on an artist," adding, "It is evident that the Trotskyites in Paris have given the tipoff to 'get' Siqueiros."

Rivera, it will be recalled, was once friendly to Trotsky. After Trotsky was slain by a Kremlin

agent, however, Rivera joined the Mexican Communist Party. That is why his remarks in this case bear the inspirational touch of the Moscow school of art.

The facts are that Siqueiros headed a gang of Stalinists who raided Trotsky's home in Coyoacan before dawn May 24, 1940. They machine-gunned the bedroom of Leon Trotsky and his wife Natalia. Thinking they had succeeded in murdering the revolutionary couple, the Stalinist gang fled, kidnapping one of Trotsky's guards, Robert Sheldon Harte.

A few days later they put one bullet through the back of Harte's head and another through his temple, then buried the body under the floor of a lonely mountain cabin where it was discovered by the Mexican police.

Siqueiros fled when the police arrested his accomplices. Some of them were high in rank in the Mexican Communist Party. They confessed.

On August 20, 1940, the Stalinists made another attempt on Trotsky's life, succeeding this time in driving a pickaxe into his brain. For four months, Siqueiros remained in hiding until he was captured by the authorities in a hide-out near Hostotipaquillo in the state of Jalisco.

Siqueiros boasted freely about heading the May 24 assault. Nine charges were placed against him. But Stalin's secret police is not without resources. First Siqueiros was released on bail. Then he fled to Cuba, thence to Mexico. Finally he returned to Mexico City. Mexican justice, however, proved to be paralyzed when it came to serving sentence on this attempted murderer of Leon Trotsky and actual organizer of the murder of Robert Sheldon Harte.

It appears, however, that not even the GPU can completely stifle truth. The words of the Paris art magazine voice the judgment history has passed on Siqueiros' crime. Listen to that voice, Siqueiros.

STEEL UNION CAN WIN ITS STRIKE BY INDEPENDENT, MILITANT FIGHT

(Continued from page 1)

strike action was postponed again on the pretext the WSB needed more time to prepare its report. New deadline — March 23.

6. March 13 the WSB panel made its recommendations. It whittled down the wage demands to 12½¢ an hour, with further increases spread out over a long period. Postponed premium pay for Sundays, cutting pay from double time as requested to time and a quarter, disallowed a whole series of demands, but recommended that the union shop be included in the new contract, the form of which was to be determined in bargaining between union and company.

NOT SATISFACTORY

On this WSB report, Philip Murray said, "The WSB recommendations did not satisfy the needs and demands of the union." But, nevertheless, the union was willing to accept the proposals.

7. Once again, for the fourth time, the union bowed to a government request for a strike postponement. Strike deadline was postponed to April 9.

8. Strike deadline on April 9 was reached. Truman seized the industry to prevent strike, although the strike had already been postponed 99 days.

As Murray said, "Everybody got in the act." Six Congressional committees were holding hearings on the steel dispute, inspiring the introduction of dozens of bills to hamstring labor.

9. Judge Pine ruled the government seizure illegal on April 29. The steel workers immediately walked out.

10. The strike was called off. On May 1 Truman asked the union to send the strikers back to work. This was acceded to, and the long Supreme Court case on presidential seizure followed.

All in all, the strike was postponed six times. Philip Murray reported, "We waited patiently for 134 days." This was at the time of the Steelworkers convention, May 15. Another three weeks have gone by since then.

11. On June 3 the Supreme Court ruled the seizure unconstitutional. The strike now in process began.

Thus, from Nov. 1951, to June 1952, the steel workers have been kicked around, stalled, delayed, belabored by the combined forces of the steel corporations and the government.

Today Congress is hatching up strikebreaking laws against the steel workers. The great danger is that the union will be maneuvered into submitting to another retreat back into the plants, while another round-robin of government stalling goes on.

It is quite possible that either in the form of exercise of presidential powers under the Selective Service Act, the Taft-Hartley law, or under provisions of some new law passed by Congress, the steel strike will be hit with an injunction, or with seizure and a back-to-work order.

PREPARING CRACK DOWN

But no matter which way they choose, the government is preparing a crack-down on the steel strikers. If they are to win their demands the union must smash through all government intervention in this dispute, and insist upon its right to strike under the principle that workers are not obliged to work without a contract.

Throughout this battle the Congress and the steel bosses have been using the steel situation as a political football. To them the needs, aspirations and security of the workers are merely pawns in their political moves.

But none of this means anything to the workers as far as

their living standards and working conditions are concerned. They can depend only upon their great economic strength.

Unless the steel workers emulate the stubborn resistance shown by the United Mine Workers under similar conditions, they face the danger of a long-term government stall like that suffered by the railroad workers. They waited for two years without a contract, submitting to government edicts, with no gains to show after the long wait.

The steel workers strike is 100% effective. They can keep it that way. They can win if they follow the stubborn determination of one Pittsburgh striker quoted in the press, "I think we should stay out until dooms day."

'Militant' Cabaret In Minneapolis

Minneapolis readers of "The Militant" are invited to attend a cabaret in honor of the winning team in the current subscription campaign. Smorgasbord supper and dancing are on the agenda. The address is 10 South 4th Street. Time: Saturday, June 14, 8:30 p.m.

— A New Pamphlet —

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1952 NAACP Convention

By Jean Simon

A somewhat different evaluation of the problems facing the Negro people in the United States may be expected at the forty-third annual convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People than was expressed at last year's gathering in Atlanta.

The delegates meeting in Oklahoma City this June 24-29 will undoubtedly pass many of the customary resolutions on discrimination and segregation in many phases of American life, since Jim Crow remains the dominant factor in their lives. But on at least three major points, events demand a different analysis and different conclusions.

The first relates to the problem of dealing with violence against Negroes. The Preamble to the resolutions last year stated, in part:

"When we met in this capital city of the South in 1920 in our eleventh annual convention, we were preoccupied with the development of defensive measures against mob violence. Today, with the abatement of lynching and mob terror, we are primarily concerned with the abolition of enforced segregation in all public life."

That estimate has to be revised. Gradualist (slow progress through education and legal measures) policies under "democratic capitalism" have failed to end the danger from violence. To the old methods of Klan terror, beatings and intimidation have been added in the past year, mob violence with brazen official collaboration, as in Cairo, Illinois, legal "lynchings" as in Groveland, Florida, and Trenton, New Jersey, and many other cities, and a wave of dynamitings of Negro homes across the nation climaxed by the murder of Harry T. Moore in Mims, Florida.

Defense against violence is still a number one problem for the NAACP. This must be recognized and a resolution should be adopted endorsing the action of groups in California and elsewhere who organized defense guards to protect the homes of those threatened. The action of the National Board of Directors of the NAACP in calling on the labor movement for a protest strike against the failure of the government to apprehend the murderers of Harry T. Moore should also be endorsed. And the lesson should be drawn from these experiences that the NAACP should call on the unions for the formation of workers defense guards wherever similar danger to minority groups exists.

The second point which requires re-evaluation is the NAACP's position on the defense of all victims of the witch hunt, including political minorities such as the Socialist Workers Party and the Communist Party.

Past conventions of the NAACP have condemned the Smith Act — the first national thought-control legislation since the infamous Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798 — the undemocratic procedures of President Truman's Loyalty Program, and other aspects of the current reactionary drive which has been attacking civil

liberties with a viciousness comparable only to the familiar lynch spirit.

But there has been a tendency in the organization to avoid defense of the victims of these police-state measures, to pretend that the fate of such minorities does not affect the NAACP.

Experience, however, has educated wide layers of the population to the fact that "civil liberties are indivisible." No group can afford to be indifferent to the attacks on democratic rights, regardless of who the victims may be.

When the Smith Act was first invoked in the Minneapolis Labor Case in 1941 against the leaders of the Socialist Workers Party, large sections of the labor movement recognized the danger to all, and supported the defense. But the Communist Party opposed aid to the case and demanded that the government jail the victims. Today they are paying the price for their failure to make an all-out fight for repeal of the law.

With the attack on the civil rights of the Communist Party after the war, many labor leaders and others thought they could ignore, or even applaud and abet, new restrictions on freedom, so long as they were aimed at the unpopular Communists.

But today it is becoming clear to the unionists, too, that if the witch hunt is not stopped, no democratic procedures or rights will remain, and the labor movement itself will be shackled and emasculated.

Recent national conventions of the CIO Textile Workers, United Steelworkers, Amalgamated Clothing Workers and United Packinghouse Workers went on record for the repeal or revision of the Smith Act, the McCarran Act and other thought-control legislation.

The Steelworkers resolutions, as did the Textile Workers' earlier, explicitly recognized the need to defend the right of the Communist Party to free speech.

Last week we noted that a group of former FBI agents who put out Counterattack is attempting to turn the witch hunt on the NAACP. They sent a memorandum to the McCarran Committee and to the Attorney General charging there are Communists in the official staff of the Association and proposing that the membership and contributors lists be investigated by the FBI.

The Oklahoma City convention should denounce this attempt to destroy the independence of the NAACP and to dictate who shall be members or officers of the organization. The delegates should instruct the national office and local branches to refuse to turn over any lists or to co-operate with any such brazen invasion of the civil rights of its members and friends. A resolution should also express their solidarity with the labor movement and civil liberties groups in the defense of all victims of thought control measures.

(Continued next week)

The New Wonder Drugs

By Grace Carlson

Warning reports were given at the 99th annual meeting of the Minnesota State Medical Association that the so-called wonder drugs can be both a boon and a curse in medical practice. Reference was made to such widely-used antibiotics as penicillin, aureomycin, terramycin, streptomycin and chloromycetin as well as such hormones as ACTH, cortisone and the sex hormones.

Dr. Wendell Hall of Minneapolis pointed out that the indiscriminate use of antibiotics in treating respiratory infections may lull the patient into a false sense of security and delay the diagnosis of a more serious ailment.

Similarly, Dr. Robert M. Salassa of Rochester warned against using hormone drugs in the treatment of undiagnosed diseases because they may suppress or change the symptoms of the diseases.

Although the antibiotics are still regarded as "miracle drugs" by the medical profession for their impressive record of conquering some of mankind's greatest killing diseases, more and more drawbacks are being reported in the literature. Completely safe when properly used, it is the abuse of antibiotics by careless doctors and uninformed laymen that has created all of the difficulties.

Like all living organisms, disease-causing microbes are engaged in a struggle to survive. When human beings devise new drugs to kill them off, some species of microbes adapt to the new conditions and become resistant. This is very likely to occur if too little of an antibiotic is used to do the job or if antibiotics are continued over a long period of time or if the wrong antibiotic is used. Army doctors report that penicillin, streptomycin, aureomycin and chloromycetin

are all less effective now against certain germs than two or three years ago.

It has also been reported that antibiotics improperly used may cause new troubles. For example, some fungi seem to thrive on antibiotics. This is thought to be due to the fact that the powerful antibiotics kill many kinds of germs in the system besides those that are creating illness. This leaves more food and opportunity for unaffected germs and fungi to grow.

In some cases, an allergy or acquired sensitivity to the antibiotic may develop. If antibiotics are used too freely for patients' minor troubles, and allergies develop, then these patients are deprived of the benefits of the antibiotics if they become seriously ill. It is estimated that 10% to 15% of people now have some kind of a reaction to penicillin compared to 3% just a few years ago.

Much less important but still worth noting is the fact that patients' money is being wasted by the needless administration of antibiotics in minor ailments. Forty per cent of one hospital's pharmacy bill was reported to be for antibiotics and this is looked upon by serious medical writers as a dangerous trend toward over-use of these drugs.

Knowledge of the limitations, drawbacks and abuses in the use of the antibiotics will assist earnest and careful medical practitioners to bring the full value of these wonder drugs to their patients. Research men over the world are searching for more — and better — antibiotics. Mankind needs all of the help that it can obtain in its fight against death-dealing bacteria. I like to think that those of us who are struggling for a socialist world — a world freed from war and poverty and ignorance — are helping this "good fight."

Notes from the News

THE DAILY WORKER ran an article May 30 on the Michigan Trucks Act, quoting the statement by the CIO News condemning the law. While they managed to quote what the statement said about the Communist Party, the acrobatic writers also managed to skirt the fact that the Socialist Workers Party was singled out for comment by the CIO News. The SWP has been contesting the Trucks Act in the courts, and has consistently demanded a united front of all minority parties and the labor movement against it. But the CP refuses to join in such a principled struggle. Instead they try to bury the fact that the SWP is in the front lines of the fight to defend civil rights.

MRS. SYLVIA V. NEFF, a union official of the United Packing House Workers, CIO, at Camden, N. J., is being railroaded to jail on a perjury count involving her testimony before a Grand Jury in which she swore she was not a Communist. The judge, showing his vindictiveness, said, "You ingrate. You turn your back on all the good in America to take up this vicious force in government. How could you take any oath, false or otherwise? Communists don't believe in God." That's judicial impartiality for you.

POSTHUMOUS AWARD TO A HERO. Harry T. Moore, Florida NAACP leader who was killed by a hate-bomb that wrecked his home Dec., 1951, is being awarded the 37th Spingarn Medal, given each year by the NAACP to a Negro American whose achievement is judged the most outstanding of the year. The medal will be presented

June 27 during the 43rd annual NAACP convention in Oklahoma City to Mrs. Rosa B. Moore, 83-year-old mother of the martyred Negro leader.

THE NUMBER OF WORKING WIVES is greater today than at the peak of World War II, a sample survey by the Census Bureau has shown. The Bureau estimates that there were about 10,200,000 married women in the labor force in April, 1951. This is 1,800,000 more than April 1944, when war production was at its height. Thirty percent of women with children of school age were working, the survey showed.

DEPRESSION AND REVOLUTION were spectres foreseen for Europe by representatives to the Council of Europe's Consultative Assembly discussing results of the Marshall Plan. Robert Boothby a British Conservative said that Europe was in the midst of "deepening economic crisis." He gloomily predicted that a small recession in the United States could start a European wave of unemployment and that "we might have a revolutionary situation on our hands."

THE WORKS OF ANDRE GIDE, the late French novelist renowned in every land as a great artist, has been put on the proscribed list by the Vatican. All his works are condemned and put on the index of forbidden works, as "blasphemous." The reason given was that Gide had lived his life as "a non-Christian, or rather, an anti-Christian." By this standard all the writings of Moslems, Jews, and non-Christian authors could be banned.

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Appeal Ban on Paul Robeson At U. of Minn.

MINNEAPOLIS, June 2 — A committee of the Academic Senate of the University of Minnesota Wednesday upheld a ban on a campus concert by Paul Robeson scheduled for today. The ban on the Robeson concert was appealed by spokesmen for the Student Action Committee, student group which led the fight against the ouster of Dr. Forrest O. Wiggins, Tri-U, a religious student organization, the Young Progressives of America, original sponsor of the projected concert, the Student Group for Political Analysis, and the Socialist Club.

The decision of the Senate committee was perfunctory since the ban on the Robeson concert had already received public backing from University President J. L. Morrill. A decision by the Senate committee favorable to Robeson would undoubtedly have been reversed by Morrill.

A day prior to the Senate committee meeting, Morrill in a press release attacked Robeson as "an embittered, anti-American, anti-democratic propagandist."

"Ostensibly," Morrill said, Robeson "would have been brought to the campus as a singer; actually he would be regarded as the clearly identified symbol of Soviet sympathies in this country and abroad."

ANOTHER "PEEKSKILL"

Socialist Workers Party Vice-Presidential candidate Dr. Grace Carlson attacked the prohibition of Robeson's concert by the University authorities as a "Minnesota Peekskill." She urged that the labor movement intervene in order to forestall the "fascist-like" actions of the university administrators.

Pointing out that the campus banning of Robeson follows the disgraceful tradition set at Peekskill, N. Y., in 1949 when organized bands attacked a Robeson concert sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress, Dr. Carlson stated that the American labor movement must understand that "it can happen here."

Dr. Carlson attacked the statement of the Young Progressive, of America which contained the sentence: "People such as Senator McCarthy and members of the Socialist Workers Party, some of whom were convicted under the Smith Act in 1941, have been allowed to speak without any restrictions." This statement, she said, "offered aid and support to reactionary University officials."

The action of the University Administration received editorial backing from the Minneapolis Tribune.

STUDENT REACTION

A letter to the Minnesota Daily signed by three freshmen typified student reaction to the banning of Robeson. The letter said in part, "No, we don't agree with Robeson's policies, but we had been looking forward to hearing the famed baritone perform. We could listen to a person like Senator McCarthy tell his political views, but attending a CONCERT and hearing Robeson sing is going to corrupt us. How ridiculous can you get?"

Attacking the ban editorially, the Minnesota Daily wrote, "Our constitution guarantees free men the right to earn a living. Would Pres. Morrill change this principle? If so, what are we fighting for?"

Efforts to secure an off-campus hall for Robeson in the Twin Cities have been unavailing. A hall was obtained by the local chapter of the Civil Rights Congress at the American House in St. Paul. However the American House announced today cancellation of the arrangements.

Political Spending Hits All-Time High

The research staff of the Democratic National committee tentatively reports that the Republicans will break all records in 1952 by spending around \$250 million for its campaign.

But this figure is only a guess, and probably an underestimation. According to Marquis Childs, columnist, political expenditures will be higher this year than ever before.

"The barrage from certain business sources," says Childs, "is bound to increase as the campaign grows hotter." Not only the official party expenditures, but all kinds of publicity paid for by corporations, will be thrown into the 1952 campaign by supporters of both Republicans and Democrats.

This is part of the waste of capitalism, pouring millions into hot air.

THE MILITANT

Korea War Takes Staggering Toll, Brass Hats Plan More Slaughter

By Fred Hart

Over 19,000 American youth have died in battle in the two-year-old Korea war.

Almost 10,000 more young men who should be studying in schools, or beginning their life's work, are missing, most of them also probably dead somewhere in the Korean wasteland.

In addition close to 110,000 GI's have suffered the pain and

shock and disability of battle wounds.

And one million U.S. families have been forced to send their sons thousands of miles across the sea — to fight in this war they do not want.

This is only the statistical toll of human loss exacted by the bloody American imperialist intervention in Korea — in terms of what Americans have lost. All the adding machines in the world could not compute the losses suffered by the Korean people.

Besides the human toll, there is the financial waste and destruction.

Americans have paid \$15 billion for this war. If you can't imagine what that much money means it might help to know that it is enough to give every one of the million families whose sons were sent to Korea, a new \$7,500 home. There would be enough left over to give each of their boys a \$7,500 grubstake to start out in life, to get married, to get an education, or just to travel and have fun with.

But they sent the young men across to use these billions of dollars in the form of armaments to lay waste to a foreign land and destroy its cities, villages, and murder its women and children.

This is what this war has cost thus far. But it is by no means over. According to U.S. News and World Report, an influential capitalist magazine, the war will go on for years.

"War of this new kind," says the magazine, "a bleeding operation... can go on for years. The figure mentioned by some informed military officials is ten years."

And, says this report, "Fighting will go on for half a million American youth. Casualties will level out at around 12,000 a year, 1,000 a month."

"Dollar costs will be \$7.5 billion a year."

"War itself will drag on, with no truce, no big offensive, no try for a win, just slow draggy fighting and no end in sight."

In the next year, says this magazine, 2,700 more families will each have a son killed in Korea, and 11,600 will get a casualty notice.

All this to keep a foothold in Asia for the U.S. imperialists who hope to dominate the world. Every day that it goes on involves a risk that the war will spread, unleashing the dreaded World War III.

But the slaughter goes on despite the fact that it is the most unpopular war in American history. And, with the complete exposure of the cynical truce negotiations as a mere stalling operation, the Big Brass hold out the prospect of ten more years of the same kind of war.

If this war ended right now it would go down in history as one of the most horrible atrocities in the brutal history of imperialism. It is long overdue for the American people to rise up and shout with one voice: Stop the Korean war now! Bring the American GIs home!

Training for Atomic War



Operation Mushroom is name given to training program in which American troops in Korea are being readied for possible atomic war. Here Pfc Richard J. Ellis of Pittsburgh guards tunnel leading to underground room. Korea has been aptly called the "testing ground" for World War III.

SAN FRANCISCO UNION WINS STRIKE VICTORY

SAN FRANCISCO, May 28 — A 55-day strike of 12,000 members of the Bay Counties District Council of Carpenters has forced the Associated General Contractors

to accede to the union's demands. Concessions include a 15c-an-hour wage increase and a 7½c-an-hour health and welfare plan, plus improved working conditions.

The break in the strike came after the union membership overwhelmingly rejected a proposal by the contractors to grant a wage increase but not the welfare and health plan, which the employers wanted to "negotiate" after strike settlement. Thus the strike after that point centered on the health and welfare demand.

The contractors' association had insisted on a series of unbending proposals: (1) Foremen to be denied union representation; (2) tool insurance, change room facilities and one holiday, Armistice Day, to be eliminated from the agreement; (3) the agreement to be frozen for five years; (4) a no-strike clause which would allow the contractors to violate the contract at will while not allowing the union to observe legitimate picket lines of other unions.

TRADES BACKED STRIKE

The contractors dropped these proposals when confronted by the

Mich. CIO Parley Hits Trucks Law

(Continued from page 1)

Trucks Act are Johnny-come-latelys who have harmed and are continuing to harm the anti-communist battle.

The resolution says in this section: "The Michigan CIO and its affiliates have long been in the forefront in its vigorous fight against totalitarianism. The CIO has opposed the totalitarian extreme right represented by Fascism, the Ku Klux Klan and its closely related offshoots, as well as a forceful opposition to totalitarian reaction of the left symbolized by the Communist Party, its front organizations, and the several political minority parties who plague and infiltrate the labor movement."

"We in the CIO have won the right to speak out for freedom. We have demonstrated our anti-Communism in deeds."

This and other such material in the resolution constitutes an obvious "skirt-clearing" effort on the part of the drafters of the resolution, which in itself is testimony to the effect of the witch hunt. However, the resolution marks an important step forward in the struggle to bring home the fact that such laws as the Trucks Act are aimed squarely at the labor movement as a whole and must be resisted by the labor movement as a whole.

Socialist Party Convention Backs Truman War Plan

CLEVELAND, June 1 — The Socialist Party, although it has abandoned socialist principles and with them its reason for existence, still refused to give up the ghost at its convention here. It will run a presidential candidate in 1952, on a program undistinguishable from that of the liberal wing of the Democratic Party.

The domestic and international policy adopted by the delegates, dominated by white hair and bald heads, proposed a few reforms at home, and support of U.S. imperialism abroad against the Soviet Union.

Disregarding the bloody American intervention in Korea, the SP program states that "The greatest obstacle to enduring peace today is the aggressive imperialism of the Soviet Union." Its program for "peace" is support of the United Nations, under whose flag the murder and pillage in Korea is carried on.

All that is left of the Socialist Party is the name. A few youths who tried to inject a note of independence into the proceedings and to lay the blame for the witch hunt on Truman as well as McCarthy, were voted down.

A youth delegate, defending such an amendment, asked what kind of perspective the party has for an electoral contest if it has no fundamental criticisms of the Democratic Party and "Fair Deal." The answer is that it will be no electoral contest, just the old guard going through the motions.

Not a single anti-capitalist slogan decorated the walls of the convention hall. Banners read: "Organization, Education, Solidarity," "Vote Socialist," and "Socialism, not Capitalism, Can Stop Stalinism."

A youthful observer hoisted a sign reading, "Socialism, Not Stalinism, Can Destroy Capitalism." But anti-capitalism was not the convention's line.

Norman Thomas declined to run for president this year and was not at the convention. Darlington Hoopes was nominated for President, and Samuel H. Friedman for Vice President.

The Socialist Workers Party offers workers the only socialist program in this year's presidential campaign. The SWP is campaigning on a fighting anti-war policy, unqualified opposition to the war plans of U.S. imperialism, and to the garrison-state offensive of the capitalists at home.

SWP candidates are Farrell Dobbs for president, and Grace Carlson for vice president.

LEADERS OF DISTRICT 65 CONTINUE ANTI-STALINIST DRIVE AT CONVENTION

NEW YORK — The fifth biennial convention of District 65, Department Store, Professional and Office Workers of America, Independent, May 17 and 18 saw the leadership of this union, once completely subservient to the Stalinists, continue their year-old offensive against the CP.

David Livingston, DPOWA president, charged that the Stalinists are the main disruptive element in the union, seeking to discredit his administration by hurling charges of sell-out, Jim Crow and the like.

The Local 65 leadership has been using its tight control over thousands of small shops to remove Stalinists from their posts, in a purely administrative series of maneuvers. Attempts of the Stalinists to resist this campaign have been ineffective.

WITCH HUNT OPPOSED

There was no open red-baiting in the convention. The politically alert membership would not stand for it. As a matter of fact, Livingston was compelled to give at

least lip service to general opposition to the Smith Act, the McCarran Law, and the witch hunt, although no specific actions for fighting on this front were proposed.

Livingston's organizational grip on the union was strengthened at the convention. The Stalinists came out of the sessions thoroughly beaten. Out of some 1,100 delegates the Stalinists could only muster the support of less than 100.

In the caucusing for nominations, the Stalinists nominated some of their supporters for organizer posts. But indications are that not one will be elected in the June poll. At present they have one or two organizers.

NEW CONTRACTS

Livingston reported that recent wage and contract negotiations were successfully concluded with the exception of the major department store field. New contracts won average weekly wage increases of \$4 and \$5, and a 3½%-of-the-payroll contribution

by the companies to finance a medical plan for the membership. However, only a 2% medical contribution was approved by the WSB. The remaining 1½% will be added to the pension and welfare funds.

At convention time only one department store, Bloomingdale's, had come to terms with the union, giving a \$3 wage increase, partial hiring from the union hall and a medical plan. Since the convention one more store, Stern's, settled for about the same terms.

Harry Ring to Speak At Newark Forum

The Newark Socialist Forum announces that Harry Ring will speak on I. F. Stone's book, "The Hidden History of the Korean War," Friday, June 13 at 8:30 p.m., 423 Springfield Ave.

The talk should prove stimulating since Stone's sensational exposure of the Truman administration's role in the Korean war has aroused sharp controversy.