

## KOREAN WAR STIRS BITTERNESS IN VOTERS

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Workers of the World, Unite!

# THE

# MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

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## Voters Express Doubt, Hesitation About Old Parties

By Myra Tanner Weiss  
SWP Candidate for Vice-President

Since starting on my national speaking tour a month ago, I have questioned as many people as I can about popular sentiment on the 1952 election, and this is the picture I have got to date:

Most voters will string along with the Democratic and Republican parties this year, but a great many of them will do so with doubts, reservations and dissatisfaction with both major parties.

Some confirmation of this estimate was provided last week in the Roper Poll, which reported that only 50% of the people

**SWP Election News**

### Campaigning for Socialism

By George Clarke  
SWP Campaign Manager

From the moment this campaign began, we said that peace was the central issue before the American people in 1952; and Farrell Dobbs and Myra Tanner Weiss have been hammering on that issue from one end of the country to the other, demanding that the troops be withdrawn from Korea, that recognition be granted to the Chinese Peoples Republic, that the Cold War against the USSR and Eastern Europe be stopped.

Up to now the Big Money Candidates (they're spending a mere eighty-five million bucks on the campaign) have been turning themselves inside out to duck the Main Question. But murder (and I mean murder) will out, and the issue is finally on the boards. Only the issue between them is not how to stop the war in Korea, not how to turn back from their mad race to atomic destruction. It's this: Who's the more blood-thirsty anti-communist? Did Truman and Acheson wait too long before starting the Korean war? Did Eisenhower speak too softly about the USSR in 1945? Is Eisenhower's Holy War of Liberation better than Stevenson's Crusade against the Communist Anti-Christ? (That's Stevenson speaking . . . not Franco!)

I F. Stone can twist himself into a corkscrew figuring out the lesser evil between these monumental hoodlums. Intelligent people will choose Farrell Dobbs and Myra Tanner Weiss. Can there be any question of it?

### THE REAL ANTI-McCARTHY CANDIDATE

There is only one genuine opponent to witch-hunter McCarthy in the Wisconsin Senatorial elections. That's James Boulton of the Socialist Workers Party. Let them shout about splitting the progressive vote or about lesser evils and all that tripe. The primary elections in Wisconsin should have proved to every one that any candidate — and that's all a Democrat can be — who accepts McCarthy's anti-communist premises, or who sugars up the McCarthy program (really Truman's program) to eliminate the rough stuff is the kind of opposition McCarthy likes. He walks all over them. Boulton may not get elected, but he'll show how McCarthyism should really be fought. And that's important because the anti-McCarthy movement will eventually have to become a big power in Wisconsin, as elsewhere.

So far as we can make out from here, neither the Progressive Party or the S.P. is running a candidate against Political Mugger Number One.

### CANDIDATES IN THERE PITCHING

Reports from east and west show excellent meetings and first-rate campaigning by our two candidates. Philadelphia had a fine meeting for Dobbs. He did most of his campaigning there over the radio. For two nights running he appeared on the Steve Allison radio show which

(Continued from page 2)

For Vice-Pres.



### Fund Gains \$2,421 in Latest Total

By Reba Aubrey  
Fund Campaign Manager

Receipts during the past week in the Socialist Workers Party campaign for an \$18,600 Presidential Election and Anti-Trucks Law fund amounted to \$2,421. This increased the grand total to \$18,368 as of Sept. 29, or 98% of the amount pledged by the branches — just 2% short of our goal. However, there is one more day to go and although a few of the branches are still behind schedule, we confidently expect a last-minute rush to get under the wire. The campaign closes Sept. 30.

First place on the scoreboard has been pretty well cinched for Connecticut. A friend, vacationing in Canada, sent in \$10.40 to be credited to Connecticut. This boosts their score to 118%.

Cleveland elbowed its way into second place with an additional \$34 and 113%.

San Francisco's \$145 sent them over the top to 105%. In addition, these seven branches crossed the finish line this week: Detroit, Flint, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Newark, New York and Philadelphia.

Jimmy Kutcher expressed, we believe, the sentiment of all these branches when he turned in Newark's final payment: "It will

(Continued on page 2)

### Snipper Condemns School Witch Hunt In Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 27 — Milton Snipper, independent candidate for Congress from the 19th Congressional District here, today denounced the new "loyalty" quiz regulation for Los Angeles school teachers as intended "to establish the witch-hunt in our educational system and force teachers to support the war drive of American capitalism."

Snipper is campaigning on the program of the Socialist Workers Party but has filed as an independent because of the discriminatory California election laws. He is vigorously opposing government witch-hunting.

Under the new regulation condemned by Snipper, the Los Angeles Board of Education would compel school system employees to answer questions not only about past and present membership in the Communist Party, but "concerning any person, place or conversation pertaining to the employee's school district duties."

### For Congress



### PROGRESSIVE PARTY HAS OWN 'LESSER EVIL' LINE

By George Breitman  
SWP Candidate for Senator, N. J.

NEWARK, Oct. 1 — The Progressive Party announced last week that it has withdrawn its candidates for Congress in the 6th, 8th, 11th and 12th Districts in New Jersey to permit voters to support other liberal candidates. (Newark News).

genuinely independent perspective.

This action means that the Progressive Party will give official support to the incumbent Republican Congressman in the 6th and 8th Districts (Case and Canfield), the incumbent Democratic Congressman in the 11th (Addison), and the Democratic candidate in the 12th (Fox). All four of these capitalist party politicians have been endorsed by the AFL and CIO.

It was not a case of withdrawal because of difficulty in getting on the ballot. The four Progressive candidates were certified for the ballot last March. It was not a technical but a political action, designed to help elect backs of the old parties which the Progressive Party is supposed to be fighting.

### UNANSWERED QUESTION

To their members, the Progressive leaders try to justify the withdrawals as a clever move to keep the party from being isolated from the "liberal" forces inside the old parties, with whom they hope to form a coalition.

But the thing they can't explain to anybody's satisfaction is this: If it is correct to give informal support to "Liberal Republicans" and "Fair Deal Democrats" running for Congress, then why isn't it equally correct to give such support to the same kind of capitalist politicians running for the Senate, or for the Presidency?

The inability of the Progressive leaders to explain this deadly inconsistency undermines their campaigns for the national Hallinan-Bass ticket and for Katherine Van Orden, running for U.S. Senator in New Jersey. It feeds doubt and demoralization among Progressive members and sympathizers by showing that their party is not fighting the old parties up and down the line as a matter of principle and has no

thing is that a Senator, now plutocratic masters, then I will see if I have any indignation left over for the fact that he may have put a few of their bucks in his own pockets.

THEY'RE BOTH MY BOYS!



### Withdraw All Troops, Urges SWP

By Farrell Dobbs  
SWP Presidential Candidate

I have insisted throughout this election campaign that the question uppermost in the minds of the American people is: How can we stop the Korean War immediately?

Every public opinion poll has shown that the majority of Americans are bitter about the Korean War. These polls show that they think it wrong ever to have sent U.S. armed forces to intervene in Korea.

Gen. Eisenhower is trying to capitalize on this sentiment by blaming the Democratic administration for "blunders" that brought on the Korean War. At the same time, he said on Sept. 22 that the U.S. invasion of Korea "was an inescapable decision."

While the general says the Korean War is a "critical problem demanding solution," all he offers is the rather vague formula that "brains and will power" — meaning Republican "brains and will power" — are the "two most essential, utterly indispensable needs of our government in the winning of the peace."

### DEFENDS TRUMAN

Stevenson answered Eisenhower on Sept. 28 by defending every step of the Truman administration that led up to the Korean War. He charged that Eisenhower and those who accuse the Democrats of "bungling" this country into the Korean War "neither tell us what they would have done in the past nor what they will do in the future."

But Stevenson himself doesn't even pretend to have a program to end the Korean War. He offers "no easy solutions, no relief from burdens and anxiety."

Stevenson thus holds out only the prospect of a continuation of the Korean War, with the danger that it may be converted into a bigger war at any moment. That is what Eisenhower offers too.

### WAR GAMES

Their common real aim is the aggressive expansion of American imperialist power over the entire globe, including the Soviet Union. This aim is exemplified in the gigantic North Sea naval maneuvers, the greatest ever undertaken. They extended from the North Sea down into the Mediterranean. Large-scale land warfare operations were simulated simultaneously in Western Germany and Italy.

The U.S. Navy and its allied forces sailed right to the very mouth of the Baltic Sea — a move as provocative as if a Soviet fleet had conducted war maneuvers in the mouth of the St. Lawrence River. The maneuver was said to involve a "mythical situation." But, admitted Hanson Baldwin, military analyst of the N. Y. Times, "the mythical situation was similar to one that probably would exist if war with the Soviet union should start."

### WE OPPOSE WAR

The perspective of Stevenson and Eisenhower is war not only in Asia but in Europe. The Socialist Workers Party, which I have the honor to represent as presidential candidate, is irreconcilably opposed to this war program.

As a first step toward real peace, my party proposes to stop, without further delay, the Korean War. The American people did not want and have never approved. The country cannot afford to wait on the U.S. brass hats negotiating interminably at Panmunjom. We are for ending the war by the simplest, most fool-proof method: WITHDRAW ALL U.S. ARMED FORCES FROM KOREA AT ONCE!

### RACIST HOUSING COVENANTS SIGNED BY BOTH GOP, DEM V-P CANDIDATES

By William E. Bohannan  
SWP Candidate for Congress,  
11th District, N. J.

There are many "scandals" that the Democrats and Republicans could spring on each other. But most of them never see the light of day because of one drawback — whatever they say about the other party is equally true of them selves.

But, Miss Montgomery continues, they changed their minds when they discovered that Sparkman had also signed the covenant. And to make matters worse, so had such self-styled liberals as Democratic Senators Blair Moody of Michigan and Harley Kilgore of West Virginia, crusading Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee and Senators Burnet Maybank of South Carolina and Lister Hill of Alabama.

"The Democrats are willing to forget all about that covenant, thank you, if the Republicans do it after all."

The Democrats discovered that Nixon had signed a covenant agreeing not to resell his \$41,000 house to Negroes or Jews," according to Miss Montgomery.

"This was just what the Dems needed to combat Vice Presidential nominee Sparkman's 'white supremacy' voting record in the industrial North and East."

"Licking their chops over the

furor the signed covenant would

votes for civil rights legislation."

(a lie — he usually votes against Democrats were waiting only for civil rights) and explains that he until they had exacted the last "had to" sign the covenant if he wanted to "buy in the restricted Spring Valley section of the nation's capital" (but why did he "have to" buy his home there?).

### CHANGED THEIR MINDS

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From the standpoint of the Daily News, which is backing the Republicans this year, there was nothing wrong in what Nixon did. Miss Montgomery defends him as a "shining young crusader who for the old parties means voting for men who sign restrictive covenants."

Every Negro, every Jew, and every believer in democratic rights ought to remember this fact on election day: Voting for the old parties means voting for men who sign restrictive covenants.

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### A GOOD TIPOFF

The whole setup of the Nixon fund is a good tipoff for all capitalist politics. The Nixon club was carefully organized to guard against accusations of bribery or corruption. "Dick" was not to handle the money himself, he was not even to know the names of contributors, and both Nixon and the fund administrator have claimed repeatedly that "special favors" to the donors were never permitted.

All this is true, the Democratic Party case on the Nixon deal is pretty well shot to pieces, because they want to prove or insinuate personal corruption on Nixon's part. But the socialist case starts exactly where the Democrats are forced to leave off.

Personally, I can't get indignant over Nixon's morals after I have taken a good look at his politics. When I get over my rage at this semi-fascist demagogue's plans for the enslavement of the American people in line with the desires of his

(Continued on page 2)

### Crooked Even When Straight

By Harry Frankel

The Nixon scandal has been followed by a rash of financial nudism that has everybody baring all. The exposures seem to prove one thing conclusively: there is a lot of big business money in U.S. politics.

Now you can call the big business tycoons of this land anything you please, but you can't call them liberal with their long green. When they cast bread upon the waters, they want it back buttered. And yet, to judge from the lists of business contributors to politicians' coffers now appearing in the newspapers, the industrial and financial barons have been giving the stuff away to the wheelbarrow. And, to judge from the stories of the recipients, the hard-headed donors have abjured their usual tight-fisted attitude and are getting nothing in return.

Of course that seems hard to believe, and as a matter of fact there are probably very few who do believe it. The money invested by the lords of industry in the Democratic and Republican parties brings a return. It is one of the means by which they keep control over U.S. politics.

That's the big lesson in the

# End Korea War, Stop Jim-Crow, Build Labor Party

The following talk was prepared by George Breitman, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senator in New Jersey, for delivery over the "People's Choice" program on Station WNEW, Oct. 2:

A few years ago there was a movie called "The Senator Is Indiscreet," starring William Powell as a Senator who was trying to become President. One scene showed him meeting with a group of workers and telling them that he stood for a two-day work-week at seven days' pay. The next scene showed him meeting with a group of employers and telling them that he stood for a seven-day work-week at two days' pay. It was an exaggeration for the purpose of comedy, but not much of an exaggeration. That is how the Democrats and Republicans operate in real life too. They promise all things to all men, they pretend to be the friends of all classes.

We deny that such a thing is possible. The interests of capital and labor are different; in fact, they are opposite. Nobody who represents the interests of capital can represent the interests of labor. Nobody can represent the interests of both the people who are for war because they profit from it, and the people who are against war because they may lose their lives in it.

Nobody can represent the interests of both the Dixiecrats and the Negro people who are oppressed by the Dixiecrats. Nobody can represent the interests of both the profiteers who coin billions out of inflation, and

the consumers whose living standards are cut by inflation. And anybody who pretends he can is kidding the public, and actually representing the interests of the capitalists, warmongers, white supremacists and profiteers.

## PARTY OF THE WORKERS

Socialist Workers Party candidates say openly and frankly that if elected we will not serve the interests of the businessmen, militarists, thought-controllers and practitioners of Jim Crow in any form. We don't want their support, we reject it completely, and, unlike the Republican and Democratic politicians, we're not going to get any slush funds from them, either before or after the election.

Almost everybody knows that there is a struggle going on in the world between the haves and have-nots, between those who work for a living and those who grow rich on the toil of others. That is the reason why we form trade unions, cooperatives, consumers' and tenants' organizations. But not everybody realizes that this struggle assumes a political form.

In most other industrialized countries the working people have a labor party of their own to protect their political interests. Unfortunately, that isn't the case yet in this country. Unlike the working people, American businessmen know how important it is to have a party of their own. That's why they have two of them.

## WILL ROGERS IN SIBERIA

Will Rogers visited Siberia in the plane in the 1930's and made a broadcast to this country in which he said: "Siberia — this is the place where the Russians send their rich men. We send ours to the Senate." And if Will Rogers was living today, after the recent slush fund scandals in both major parties, he could have added: "If the Senators aren't rich themselves, they get taken care of by the rich, whose interests they defend in Washington."

There's a lot of talk about change this year. Well, we think one of the things that should be

## For N.J. Senator



GEORGE BREITMAN

be done: "Siberia — this is the place where the Russians send their rich men. We send ours to the Senate." And if Will Rogers was living today, after the recent slush fund scandals in both major parties, he could have added: "If the Senators aren't rich themselves, they get taken care of by the rich, whose interests they defend in Washington."

There's a lot of talk about change this year. Well, we think one of the things that should be

changed is the situation where only the interests of the businessmen are represented in Congress. We think it's time for the working people of this country to have some representation in Washington, to have some men and women there who will use their office to fight for the workers and farmers and minority groups.

## GET OUT OF KOREA

All the polls show that a majority of the American people are against the war in Korea and want it stopped. There are more than 500 members of Congress, but not a single one of these Democrats and Republicans has conducted a fight to bring the U.S. troops home without delay from a civil war they have no business interfering with. Let's change this situation too, before the Korean war is spread into another world war. Let's elect candidates who want the war stopped now and who stand for a national referendum in which the American people themselves can democratically decide the issue.

Inflation is the Number One economic problem today. Instead of curbing it, the capitalist politicians in both major parties are encouraging it because it means bigger and better profits for the business interests. We say: The way to fight inflation is by attacking it at its roots — by stopping the gigantic war preparations; by putting a 100% tax on all arms industry profits; by imposing rigid price and rent controls to be enforced by committees of housewives, trade unionists, shopkeepers and farmers; by taxing the rich, not the poor; by ending

all taxes on incomes under \$7,500 a year.

Civil rights is another pressing issue. The Democrats and Republicans are lavish with their promises to the Negro people, but not one federal civil rights law has been passed in the last 75 years, no matter which capitalist party was in power. We want and we need laws to abolish discrimination in employment, segregation, lynch-terrorism, poll taxes and second-class citizenship. To get such laws passed, the record proves that we'll have to throw the old parties out of office.

Another thing that has to be stopped is this business of people getting called "communists" or "subversives" every time they open their mouths to criticize someone. This is supposed to be a free country. Nobody should be smeared or persecuted merely because of what he says or what he writes or whom he associates with. We don't want political prisoners or concentration camps or thought control in the United States, and we've got to get rid of all laws and executive orders that lead in the direction of a police state. If we aren't going to be

allowed to discuss freely, we might as well not hold elections.

Those are the things the American people need some representatives in office to fight for. The election of Socialist Workers Party candidates would give us such representation. But we need more than "some" representatives to get the laws passed that we want — we need a majority of them in the government. That means we've got to begin building a new political party now, an independent labor party that will run and elect its own people to office, take over the government and start legislating the things that the majority of the people want.

Remember this: The working people are the majority of the population, and have the power to get what they want. If you don't want war, you can prevent it by taking the war-making power away from the politicians leading us to war. If you don't want high prices, high taxes, high profits, discrimination and suppression of free speech, you can do away with these evils by doing away with the political monopoly of the Democrats and Republicans who are responsible for them.

## No "Lesser Evils"



Democrat candidates Stevenson (l.) and Sparkman (r.), shown above practicing their campaign smiles, are being backed by liberals as a "lesser evil." How little less may be gauged by Stevenson's recent speech for a tighter wage freeze "if necessary" and Sparkman's white supremacist record.

## Fund Up \$2,421 In Latest Total

(Continued from page 1) be wonderful to see Newark among the 100%ers on the score-board."

And Alma Seton expressed the wish of every comrade when she sent in Philadelphia's final payment of \$52: "I hope the party winds up the Presidential Election — Anti-Trucks Law fund campaign with a bang!"

Los Angeles chalked up a big gain of \$600 — 86% of their \$2,200 pledge. Milwaukee added \$50 to its score with a promise to "send more next week." Youngstown's \$30 will also be followed by "more next week."

(See Scoreboard on Page 3)

## Mid-West Farmers Not Enthusiastic About Either Party

Columnist Stewart Alsop tells the results of some political "pulse-feeling" that he and Walter Riddell of the St. Paul Pioneer Dispatch undertook among farmers between St. Paul, Minn., and Dubuque, Iowa. Of those they interviewed, he says, 92% "don't know or won't tell" who they're going to vote for.

One young farmer who had enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve, however, angrily told how he had served his country "by busting up 198 nearly new Cadillac amphibious tank engines with a sledge hammer — that's where your tax money goes."

He said an enlisted friend got court-martialed for taking a gas can, while officers had the men make trailers for them out of government property. "You expect me to vote for a general after that?" But he too was undecided — "they say Stevenson's tied up with the big boys, too."

That settles it. The Army didn't. No real opposition party will talk to the soldiers. Nobody will blast the lies they have been telling the troops about socialism. Nobody will give the armed forces the real score on Korea. There will be no absentee votes for anybody except the Republicans if the Pentagon can help it.

Reason: the Army is heading straight to the poorhouse. It has

a mere one-hundred-billion dollars received from Congressional appropriations in the till.

P.S. Hallinan was also turned down cold.

Had they spent it to try to get some labor representatives elected, contracts or other payoffs for him. But, in proving this, Nixon and his backers have owned up to something far more damaging.

They have admitted that Nixon is the common property of a class, instead of the special property of an individual or corporation.

## GENERALIZED TREASON

This is worse because it implies generalized treason against the people. A man who is bought by Standard Oil, as Senator Foraker was years ago, will vote for that company on matters of special concern to it. But a Senator like Nixon, who has become the "boy" of the whole capitalist class, even if he never does a single favor for any one individual, is far more dangerous to the people.

In actual fact, Nixon is not an isolated example. Representative Ralph W. Gwin of Westchester and Putnam counties in New York has declared that he himself was getting such salary supplements from a similar committee.

As the N.Y. Times of Sept. 24 reported, he said that "at least 100 other members of Congress had used privately donated funds in the same manner as Nixon."

## THE "HONEST" ONES

All of this represents one method of capitalist control of politics. But it is one of the least important. The most foolish conclusion we could draw from the Nixon affair is that those politicians who don't take "salary supplements" from big business are not controlled by big business.

As a matter of fact, most capitalist politicians don't have to be bribed to vote for the capitalist class. They come from the business circles of the nation themselves, from the corporation law offices, from the banks and bond houses, from the "front office" in general. They live in the business world, and have assimilated the business outlook so thoroughly that they vote for capitalist interests almost automatically.

## UNION MONEY WASTED

They don't have to be bribed to vote capitalist. Many of them undoubtedly could never be bribed to vote against capitalist interests. That's why the labor unions that threw their dough into Stevenson's fund along with the many capitalist donations were only wasting their money.

The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed through the mails or otherwise paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semi-weekly, and tri-weekly newspapers only.) 4,500.

Joseph Hansen, Business Manager, sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of September, 1952.

REBA G. HANSEN  
(Seal)  
My commission expires March 30, 1954.

# The American Way of Life

## Things Like That Don't Happen Here

In the U.S. the rights of the individual are respected and safeguarded in contrast to dictatorships where a person never knows when the secret political police might knock on your door and haul you away innocent or guilty, trial or no trial.

That's the right way to think — the American Way. But sometimes our thinking is a bit more rose-colored than the reality — and that's also the American Way. Consider the instructive case of ex-GI Herman Miaski of Rensselaer, N.Y.

This 23-year-old plasterer was working away on the job when two FBI agents picked him up. They said he was a deserter from the Army. Miaski protested that he was discharged honorably from the Army and he could prove it. The FBI agents were considerate enough to drive by his house so that he could pick up his discharge papers, but apparently that's as far as their considerateness went.

Miaski found himself in the Albany County jail, incomunicado — same as in a police state. Even his sorely puzzled and worried parents were denied permission to see him. Next he was transferred to an Army stockade at Fort Dix. His clothes were thrown away; he was given GI issue and assigned to hard labor on a rock pile behind barbed wire and guns.

No one knows how long he might have sweated on that rock pile if some of the neighbors didn't happen to have powerful connections. They got in touch with Senator Lehman and Rep.

— Joseph Hansen

# Who Made America?

By George Lavan

## How We Won the Right to Vote

Most people think that there has been political democracy — that is, that free men over 21 have had the right to vote — in this country ever since the American Revolution. That, of course, isn't so. When the Constitution was ratified only about 25% of the adult males voted.

To vote or hold office you had to belong to the owning classes. This meant that small shopkeepers, artisans, workers and the poorest farmers were disfranchised. It took steady agitation and struggle from 1776 until the 1840s before all adult white men in the United States could participate in the elections. Capitalist efforts to keep the ballot from "the rabble" were defeated by a two-pronged attack.

New states in the West came in with constitutions drawn up by pioneer farmers who believed in equality and manhood suffrage. In the older seaboard states the growing working class bit by bit forced liberalization of the property qualifications. For instance, instead of holding, taxpaying was made the qualification for voting — this battle being fought under the old revolutionary slogan: "Taxation without representation is tyranny."

The opponents of democratic elections denounced the "dangerous radicals" who led the agitation. Statesmen and financiers repeatedly declared that unless the "ignorant populace" was kept from the ballot box the country would go to ruin. According to them only the "able and well-born" were capable of conducting the affairs of government.

For a few hopeful years Negroes voted in the South after the civil War. Then northern capitalism made a deal with the former slaveowners and Reconstruction democracy vanished in the wake of Ku Klux gangs. In the ensuing reaction poor whites also lost the ballot through enactment of poll tax laws.

In 1920, after decades of agitation, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was passed, giving women the vote.

Thus, it must be remembered that American capitalism did not give the people the right to vote. It was won from the ruling class through hard struggle. This particular fight is still going on below the Mason-Dixon Line.

## THE MILITANT ARMY

The following report from Minneapolis Literature Agent Helen Sherman describes the effective use of The Militant in spreading the truth about socialism:

"Last week the Minneapolis campaigners, after getting over 2,300 signatures to place our candidates on the ballot, set out to campaign for socialism with 500 copies of the Sept. 15 issue of The Militant and a leaflet announcing the Myra Tanner Weiss meeting.

"Each of us took anywhere from 15 to 50 papers and went into neighborhoods where we had earlier, received a friendly response to Militant and pamphlet sales and to the signature campaign. These people were invited to the Weiss meeting and asked to read The Militant and find out what the Socialist Workers Party

stands for in this election campaign.

"Each one of us will continue working in a selected neighborhood particularly during the campaign, in an effort to bring a new group of people toward the ideas of socialism and to get as big a vote as possible for Dobbs, Weiss, and Dunne.

"The Militant is the best campaigner we have for our program and candidates. Careful, concentrated, personalized distribution now will lay the ground for future literature sales and Militant subs. We expect to get The Militant out into the hands of new readers, everywhere we can in this area — with the aim of following up and gaining friends and recruits for the party.

"Pictures of Dobbs, Weiss, and Dunne, and campaign slogans which cover the front windows of the headquarters have attracted a good many people. Ray and Julia sell from 30 to 40 Militants a week as well as other literature to these new friends."

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Newark Fri. Night Socialist Forum presents a talk on

The Debate between I. F. Stone and Vito Marcantonio Speaker: George Breitman Mon., Oct. 10, 8:30 P.M. at 52 Market St.

Radio --- New York Hear Farrell Dobbs Mon., Oct. 6, 2:30 P.M. at 52 Market St. WNYC (830 on dial)

# THE MILITANT

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## Independence Day Massacre

Last Fourth of July, American war prisoners in North Korea decided to celebrate the anniversary of American independence with a meeting, songs and banners. The Korean and Chinese prison camp authorities forbade the celebration, and then, when it took place, sent soldiers into the camp and massacred prisoners mercilessly. Fifty-six of the unarmed PW's were killed and 110 seriously wounded, according to latest reports. The enemy said they did it "to restore order."

Did this actually happen on the Fourth? No, it did not. But it did happen on Oct. 1, third anniversary of the founding of the Chinese Peoples' Republic. It happened in an American prisoner of war camp on Cheju Island, and the terrorists were Americans, the victims were Chinese.

The fantastic story of brutality was told last week in a communiqué from the prisoner of war command in Korea. The victims are charged with absolutely nothing more than a desire to celebrate what they regard as their "independence day." They were shot down when they went ahead with that celebration despite the despotic ban issued by the PW command.

You can always tell a massacre, despite all lying attempts to cover it up with tales about "aggressive acts," by the final results.

The American colonists called the Boston events of 1770 a "massacre" and proved it by the record: British soldiers poured out a fire that killed six unarmed men.

Union men and women know a massacre when they see one: On Memorial Day, 1937 at the South Chicago works of Republic Steel, ten were killed and scores badly wounded by cold-blooded cops.

Now, on Cheju Island, the PW command reports: "In the ensuing action to restore order, 45 prisoners were killed and 120 were injured. Two U.S. personnel were slightly injured." These frigid words tell their horrible tale of armed men under orders to kill pouring their deadly fire into a helpless and unarmed mass of prisoners. Not to "restore order" but a punishment for celebrating New China's Fourth of July.

The record of the Pentagon-Wall Street offensive in Korea is exemplified in this prison camp episode. The prisoners wanted to celebrate their Independence Day, and the U.S. imperialists didn't want to permit this; for this reason they massacred dozens and injured scores. The Asian people as a whole want freedom, and U.S. imperialism doesn't want to permit that; for that reason they have invaded Korea and are massacring millions. The parallel is exact.

The butchery must be ended in the prison camps and throughout Korea. Withdraw all imperialist troops from Korea. Let the people of Asia work out their own future.

## Forecast for Businessmen

Capitalists have been told that they "have no more than another year as a last chance" to prepare for "a recession wider, deeper and longer-lasting than any interval of difficulty since the Thirties." The warning was given by the Research Institute of America, a forecasting service.

The institute hedges with the remark that this "recession" is coming unless a "new foreign crisis develops," showing that the Institute understands that "foreign crises" up to and including war are the only guarantees of capitalist prosperity in the U.S. today. That is also shown in the reasons given by the RIA for its prediction of an economic nosedive:

1. "The leveling off (of war spending) will start within the next 12 months . . . and the peak level will be around \$60 billion rather than Truman's \$65-70 billion figure."

2. Arms-inspired business spending for new plants and equipment must drop. "Every depression in recent U.S. history was foreshadowed and accompanied by a decline in business spending for machines and facilities. . . In industry after industry there are now signs that we may be adding more capacity than the economy can reasonably use in the short run. . . Business spending is likely to slide about 20% in the next 12 months, with another drop of 20% probable after mid-'53."

3. "Construction. Along with the dip in commercial and industrial activity noted above, new home building will slacken within the next few months."

4. "Consumer spending. . . The key question is whether most families are in a position to maintain their standard of living if the start of a general business decline results in layoffs and shorter working hours." The Research Institute goes on to point out that many consumer goods industries are either going through or face a slump in sales right now, before any "business decline."

5. Foreign trade. "In many industries the relatively small percentage of foreign sales accounts for all or nearly all profit . . . the weakening of this economic prop will add to the vulnerability of the economy if a test comes."

Among the shrewdest observations made in the Research Institute memorandum is this one on the possibilities of government intervention:

"At the beginning of Roosevelt's (first) term taxes were mild and government spending was low. A modest increase in spending by Washington was enough to have some stimulating effects. Today, we start with fantastic spending, taxes at or near the breaking point — and with measures like farm price supports and minimum wages so well established that they are fully discounted in the economic planning of every individual and business."

"The key point is that, given our current federal budget, the amount of new spending required to stimulate the economy would have to be staggering."

## Draft of Sons for War in Korea Stirs Most Anger Among Voters

The election issue that "stirs" had enough of the Democrats! I have a son who's been sent to Korea. What for? What are we getting out of this Korean war? It's a useless war."

Lubell's findings, based on his door-to-door sample questioning of voters, are additional confirmation of what The Militant and the Socialist Workers Party have declared all along and what the Gallup and other polls have repeatedly proved: The majority of the American people are against U.S. intervention in Korea and want it stopped now.

### DON'T LIKE EISENHOWER

Not all Democratic voters who are bitter and resentful about the Korean war and the draft are "strongest among farmers," notes Lubell, "even in the strongest New Deal neighborhoods in the cities mention of the Korean war is apt to touch off explosive outbursts." It is causing more defections among traditional Democratic voters "than any other issue, except inflation," contends Lubell, and "certainly it is causing deeper emotional anguish among voters than any other campaign factor."

A man working in his garage off Farrington St. in St. Paul turned angrily on Lubell when asked whom he intended voting for. He shouted: "I was for Roosevelt and Truman, but I've

had enough of the Democrats! I'm not going to vote for them again."

When Lubell asked one Dubuque (Iowa) County farmer whom he favored for president, his wife exclaimed: "Which one will end the Korean war?" The farmer answered: "I can't honestly tell you who I will vote for. I wouldn't like to think my vote helped elect a man who sent my boy into war."

A 60-year-old farmer in Gilman township, Wis., one of whose two sons was drafted last spring, told Lubell: "I'd like to have my boy back. I'm going to vote for the most peaceful man."

### TIRED OF WAR

One of the most common replies given Lubell by farmers who supported Truman a year ago was: "I was all set to vote for Taft, but I can't vote for a military man." Most of them had decided to turn Republican after the Korean war began, because "we're tired of having a war every time there is a Democratic president." But when the Republicans nominated a General, as one of these farmers recalled, "I felt I had no party."

Evidently, many voters put little stock in the administration's arguments for going into Korea. "Almost without exception those who are angered over the drafting of their sons protest, 'I don't know what the Korean war is about,' or that it is 'unnecessary' and 'bungled.' Some parents even feel that the Korean war is being kept going as an artificial means of maintaining prosperity and avoiding another depression."

### PRICE TOO HIGH

Lubell called on George Recker, a farmer near Dyersville, Iowa, whose oldest son, still in uniform, was home after his discharge from the Army. Asked how he felt about the election, farmer Recker said angrily: "It's all right having all this prosperity, but the price is too high."

He told his son, "Show the man your legs." The youth bore an ugly black scar on each leg, memento of Korea.

"My other boy has also been wounded," Mr. Recker stormed. "It's not worth it. Why can't we have good times without wars? If this is the price we have to pay

for prosperity I'd rather have hard times."

For many voters, Lubell observes, "the choice in November seems a choice between war or depression." Most of the farmers he talked with, "seeing no real difference between the candidates on foreign policy, were inclined to let their voting be determined by other interests, mainly economic."

### BALANCE OF FEARS

But here also they are torn by "the uneasy balance of fears between threatened depression and continued inflation." The Democrat voters fear depression most; the Republicans, inflation. But there are many farmers who haven't decided how they're going to vote. "Most of them dread both inflation and depression."

One Guthrie County, Iowa, farmer told Lubell: "We've got to stop trading blood for money. Anybody can see this Korean war is all that is holding up prices. I would rather have prices come down than keep them up through an unnecessary war."

Lubell comments: "Quite a number of farmers share this feeling."

In general, Lubell gives a picture of the American people resentful of the Korean war, seeing nothing before them but a choice of inflation or depression and satisfied with neither of the two old major parties.

## Mass Picketing Bars Scabbing in Harvester Strike

By Frank Roberts

CHICAGO, Sept. 29 — Spirited mass picket lines have brought International Harvester corporation's scab-harding plants to a standstill. As the strike of the Farm Equipment section of the

United Electrical Workers goes into its sixth week and the CIO United Automobile Workers walkout goes into its eleventh, union ranks from one end of the city to the other are solid against acceptance of the company's proposed "yellow-dog agreement."

Capt. Barnes of the striking Labor Detail of the Chicago police this morning arrested 13 workers at the Malleable Foundry of the McCormick Works.

The charge was attempting to "interfere with workers" — that is, the scabs — going into the shop. Only a handful of workers went into the Malleable Foundry, the relatively weak spot in the strike, despite the presence of dozens of cops anxious to scab.

### STRIKEBREAKING FAILS

The corporation has tried to force or induce the foremen to act as scab-holders. Dinners at plush hotels have been held for each plant. McCaffery, company president, has called on foremen to make personal visits to workers and escort them to work.

This highly publicized strike-breaking plan so far has been a dud. Since the latest company attack, in most cases the picket lines are double what they were before. The foremen are resentful of the attempt to use them as scab-holders.

The strike remains solid and no production has taken place in this area despite the above-cited strike-breaking efforts, the barrage of anti-union articles and ads in the "impartial" daily press and the timely visit of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

The Committee abruptly adjourned hearings after being greeted by a militant demonstration.

### FITZGERALD PLEDGES FULL UE SUPPORT

Nearly 1,000 workers yesterday at a rally of the striking UE-UE locals in this area heard UE President Albert Fitzgerald pledge the full support of the international union to the striking Harvester workers. He pointed out that if they won their strike, other companies would think twice before attempting to imitate Harvester's union-busting activities. He urged the need for labor unity and showed the necessity for a united labor movement to fight the corporations' assault on the living standards of the working class.

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## Electioneering in Japan



Carrying banners, candidates register for the Oct. 1 Japanese elections. Returns indicate that Premier Yoshida's reactionary party, which had U.S. backing, won 240 of 466 seats in parliament. The Stalinist Party lost all its 22 seats. Right-wing Socialists won 57, left-wing Socialists 52 seats.

## World Events

By Charles Hanley

A CLOSER ALLIANCE between the Social-Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) and the German Trade Union Federation was established at the Social-Democratic convention Sept. 24 when both the party and the union movement (6,000,000 members) came out for defense of the co-determination law which gives the unions a voice in management. The SPD opposes the Adenauer regime, rejects negotiations with the East German Stalinists, and advocates Four Power Talks on the unification of Germany.

IN WEST BERLIN 29% of the labor force is unemployed, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

WAR CRIMINAL Willy Lages, wartime head of Nazi security police in Amsterdam, responsible for the deportation of 70,000 Jews, who was sentenced to death in 1950, will not be executed. Queen Juliana decided Sept. 24.

JAPAN served notice at the International Cotton Conference in Buxton, England, Sept. 25 of intent to recapture Japanese pre-war export markets. This means a "textile war" between Britain and Japan. The reaction of the depressed U.S. textile industry has not yet been reported.

JAPANESE dollar bonds of 14 different issues soared to new record high levels on the N. Y. Stock Exchange Sept. 29 following the announcement that Japan had agreed to fully recognize the divided claims of foreign bondholders.

JAPAN, probably in agreement with the American brass in Korea, is beginning to work its agents back into its former colony. A hated former governor was discovered by the South Koreans in Pusan. He had been operating under cover there for three months. The South Koreans raised a hue and cry over the discovery, apparently without getting much sympathy from U.S. generals.

IN SOUTH AFRICA 4,181 demonstrators against Malan's savage racial laws have been arrested since the resistance campaign began. The N. Y. Times reported from Johannesburg Sept. 22.

IN EGYPT laws drawn up by the military dictatorship of Gen. Naguib will permit only "puppet parties in a puppet parliament." Land-hungry peasants will have to pay former landlords for any land granted them but can spread the payments over 30 years.

THE UNITED NATIONS Relief Agency for Palestine Refugees reported Sept. 28 that the four-year-old problem of the 880,000 Arab refugees from Palestine has not been solved. One-third of these refugees still live in hunger-ridden camps.

THE STRUGGLE FOR NEGRO EQUALITY By John Saunders and Albert Parker 10 cents

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AMERICAN WORKERS NEED A LABOR PARTY By Joseph Hansen 15 cents

SOCIALISM ON TRIAL Official Court Record of James P. Cannon's testimony in the first trial under the Smith Act, in Minneapolis, '41 35 cents

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## A Woman's Year?

By Joyce Cowley

Whenever I talk about women's rights, some man is sure to say: "You've got equality now — what more do you want? It's about time men asked for some rights."

I told that women make good money, sometimes better than a man. Look at the women executives! Women in Congress! They've got a woman Senator in Maine, even talked about running her for Vice-President.

I think that the heart of the problem is economic. If you want to know just what kind of equality women enjoy, find out the kind of work they do and what they get paid for it.

The U.S. Bureau of the Census, recently released figures on family income. The median income of all families headed by a man was \$3,435, almost 80% higher than the \$1,922 reported for families headed by a woman. Individual incomes of women averaged only \$953 compared with the \$2,570 median reported for men.

These figures surprised me, too. But if you look at the kind of jobs women have, you know why they make so little. 84% are in the following classifications — domestic service, factory work, clerical work, service trades and agriculture. Another 9% are professionals and semi-professionals. This includes nurses and teachers and four-fifths of these professionals make less than \$3,000 a year.

What about jobs that pay real money? Well, in the general labor force, one worker in every three is a woman. But when you get to top-flight professional work, it's only one in 20.

They talk about equality, and women don't earn even half as much as men! At first, I couldn't believe the figures. What about equal pay legislation? Don't most union contracts have a clause on equal pay?

Equal pay for women is something like FEPAC — we've heard a lot about it in the last 20 years. Bills were introduced in the 79th, 80th and 81st Congress. The Democrats are for it, or at any rate they say in their 1952 platform: "We believe in equal pay for equal work regardless of sex, and we urge legislation to make the principle effective." The Republicans are for it, too. I see in their 1952 platform: "We favor legislation assuring equal pay for equal work regardless of sex."

Since everyone is in favor of it, I can't help

wondering why the Women's Equal Pay Act was shelved or defeated each time it was introduced.

Twelve states and Alaska do have equal pay laws. The phrasing of the laws is often ambiguous and they are difficult to enforce, but these 12 states are way ahead of the 36 that do not have such legislation.

It's true that most major unions today incorporate equal pay clauses in their contracts. But 85% of the 20,000,000 women workers do not belong to unions.

Let's say you're lucky. You work in a state that has an equal pay law. You belong to a union that has an equal pay agreement. You can make as much money as a man — wait a minute! It's not as easy as that! Equal pay for the same kind of work is what the law says. But suppose you don't do the same kind of work?

Every plant has jobs that are traditionally "men's jobs" and others that are traditionally "women's jobs." In the New England shoe factories, for instance, it's all piece work. Nobody cares much for piece work but — the men say — it's equal, isn't it? If a woman works as fast as a man she can make as much money as a man. But cutting is a man's job and pays a high piece rate. Stitching is a woman's job and pays a low rate. No matter how fast the stitchers are, they take home a check only half as big as the check of the average cutter.

Charm (described as a magazine for women who work) reports enthusiastically in their October issue that it's a woman's year in Washington. "Although it has taken time, the barriers are down." Women actually had their names placed in nomination for Vice-President. Television brought prominent women in politics before millions of voters. They list women in top positions from Eugenie Anderson, our Ambassador to Denmark, to Georgia Neese Clark, United States Treasurer.

That's all fine, of course, but it doesn't mean too much when a woman has to settle with the landlord and the grocer, when she looks at her pay and realizes that it might be twice that size if she were a man instead of a woman. For the working women of America, it won't be a woman's year in Washington until they see Congress pass a national law for equal pay, a law with broad coverage that provides for vigorous enforcement.

## Landlords to the Rescue

By Harry Ring

Let all the faint hearts who fear that the sanctity of the American Home is being undermined by "communist termites" take cheer, the united landlords of America are on the march against insidious Russian subversion masquerading as rent control. And make no mistake about it, they are militant fighters dedicated to a sacred cause.

In Chicago they turned out in mass at a City Hall hearing in the continuation of rent control under a banner emblazoned: "Rent Control — Communism in Action — Save Us From Tyranny and Slavery." The Wall Street Journal reports that when Mayor Kennedy (obviously a subservient element) spoke in favor of continuing rent control he was forced to take refuge from the irate landlords in the gents washroom and later slipped out the building by the backstairs.

In St. Louis the landlords and their associates have not only taken up the cudgel for American freedom, but the gavel as well. During a city hearing on rent control extension, the President of the Real Estate Property Owners League solemnly declared, "Those who advocate rent control in this nation under our Constitution are advocating Communism." Whereupon, John J. Rollings, executive secretary of the AFL-CIO United Auto Workers leaders submitted to arbitration.

He nearly started a riot. He explains, "I just went down and nudged my way from landlord to landlord asking if they had place to rent a guy with three kids. Nobody had one."

Feld said he was in the jammed hallway when a cop ordered everyone to stand back. That's when it bust loose.

"Everybody got back but one fat guy," he said. "This guy showed some credentials and the cop let him stay where he was. All I said was, 'There's a perfect example of a greedy landlord.' That mob just turned on me. 'Communist,' they roared. 'Go back to Russia. Get him out of here before we tear him apart!'

"You bunch of fakers," Field yelled as he was unceremoniously thrown out of City Hall. "If you got a place to rent I want to rent it."

As it must to all good men, aid is coming to the landlords in their crusade to save America, and from nobody else but the good old U.S.

## Mary Fixson's Brave Fight

By Paul Schapiro

The following soap opera script was suggested to me by the recent television and radio show put on by Senator Nixon, whom I wish to thank for its inspiration.

Announcer: In our last episode, you will remember, Mary Fixson, a devoted young wife whose one thought is the welfare of her husband, was accused in a poison pen letter of receiving an \$18,000 fur coat, things looked black for this brave, loyal young wife. Now we hear her desperately fighting for her honor, her husband, her home.

Mary: Yes, John, I did take the coat. But I did it for your sake. I didn't think that it should come from my household allowance or from our joint bank account. Other women think nothing of wasting their husband's money in this way, but I just couldn't do it. I know how hard you work for it. Wasn't it better this way? And it wasn't even a mink coat, like most women have nowadays, but just an ordinary sable.

Remember, John, I didn't get any money just a coat. Can't you see that I took it so that I might look presentable and make people look up to you as my husband? I was only trying to be of use to you because — because (with a valiant effort to stifle a sob) I love you. I didn't get anything from it myself.

And the man who gave it to me — his motives were entirely honorable. He wanted to help me to help you. Surely, you don't believe anything else!

John: I have worked hard for you, thought of nothing else but you and the kiddies. They trust you. Don't disturb their childish faith in their daddy by being so unjust as to make me return the coat.

Announcer: Will John believe his wife? Will he make her return the coat? Will her devotion be rewarded? Listen to the next episode in "The Brave Fight of Mary Fixson."

## Notes from the News

EARL BROWDER, former head of the Communist Party, and his wife were arrested by FBI agents Sept. 30. The government alleges that in 1946 and in 1949 Browder and his wife made false statements in connection with Mrs. Browder's petition for naturalization papers. Browder asked that he and his wife be released on recognition since he has no chance of raising bail. U.S. Attorney Lane succeeded in squelching this plea because "the Browders have never tried to cooperate with the government on Communist matters." Browder has refused to act as a stoolie pigeon in the Smith Act prosecutions of Stalinist figures.

\* \* \*

WELL-PREPARED NAVY. "We have a hundred years' supply of anchors," Secretary of Navy Kimball told newsmen Sept. 26. "We have all the anchors we need for a couple of wars."

Kimball was replying to Eisenhower who had denounced wasteful government spending and had cited a "fifty year's supply of anchors" as an example.

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DETROIT STREET CAR FARES just went up to 20 cents. During the last 10 years fares have increased almost 300%. The service remains notoriously poor.

\* \* \*

TOO TRUE. The Voice of America, which beams U.S. propaganda to the world, gave a

sugar-coated account of the "Nixon Affair" and added, "The spectacle was typically an American one..."

THE COST-OF-LIVING escalator clause in the CIO Textile Workers Union contract just brought New England cotton mill workers a two-cent hourly raise. The N.Y. Times financial section reports: "There is a feeling among manufacturers that upon expiration of the contract in March 1953, the escalator clause should be eliminated."

RACIST VIGILANTES in Detroit have threatened the life of Mrs. Julian De Smet, a property owner suspected of offering to sell a building to Negro tenants, according to the East Side Shopper. Rocks through windows and warning phone calls from self-styled "vigilantes" are going hand in hand with a harassing legal action against the owner by a real estate association.

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# THE MILITANT

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## Lockheed Still Out; Douglas Men Return

By Ernest Rief

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 28 — Some 25,000 striking workers at five southern California plants of the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation are still out, while another 13,000 on strike at the Douglas Aircraft Company's plant at El Segundo today yielded to Truman's insistence that they return to work under their old contract pending further negotiations.

All 38,000 strikers, members of the AFL International Association of Machinists, have been demanding wage increases. The Lockheed workers struck on Sept. 8 for 16 cents more an hour. The company's top offer was 11 cents. The Douglas walkout followed on Sept. 15, after the company offered only five cents in response to the union demand for 10 cents more and a union shop.

The strikers have shown no lack of militancy. An attempt to break the strike with a back-to-work movement failed miserably. The rabidly anti-labor Los Angeles Times and Los Angeles Examiner, ostensibly inspired by a so-called Committee for Union Democracy, tried to foment the strikebreaking move by announcing that 2,000 workers were ready to crash the picket lines on the morning of Sept. 22.

Hundreds of extra pickets showed up, however, and only the usual trickle of non-union employees, supervisors, etc., entered the gates.

The leaders of the IAM have shown no fighting policy to match the spirit of the workers. They have repeatedly begged the government to intervene to settle the case for them. At Douglas they asked only for a meager ten-cent raise like that awarded at North American Aviation where the CIO United Auto Workers leaders submitted to arbitration.

The whole past policy of the IAM leaders shows that they are afraid to organize effective struggles. They have connived with the companies and the government to fire any union militant deemed "radical." Because of this the Santa Monica plant of Douglas failed to join the strike and thereby weakened the struggle. About 4,000 of the 16,000 Santa Monica workers voted two to one to accept the company's piddling five-cent offer. Unfortunately, many felt it was not worthwhile striking for just five cents more than Douglas offered.

Dobbs Supporters Nab Radio Time in Sidewalk Interview

By Sam Stern

How an alert socialist can take advantage of an opportunity to spread our program for peace is indicated by the following incident.

Milt and Gale were walking down the streets of San Diego on carefree holiday, when Milt was stopped by a roving radio reporter. Milt expected the question that was put to him, "What do you do for a living?" But the reporter hardly expected the answers he got.

Milt said he was campaigning for Dobbs and Weiss, national candidates of the Socialist Workers Party. One question led to another and Milt told about our platform, especially why we advocate a Workers and Farmers Party.

A Workers and Farmers government would stop the Korean war right now, he said. A revolution is taking place in Korea, he explained, and our boys are being sent there because the capitalist government wants to put down the revolution. He blamed both Stalin and the Allied powers for splitting Korea in half after World War II, thus aggravating conditions there by separating the industrial from the agricultural sector.

The interviewer got interested and wanted to know what we thought about nationalizations in general and the British nationalizations in particular. Milt said we are for the nationalization of big industries but they should be run under control of workers. In Britain, only the industries which were going bankrupt were nationalized, thus saving many capitalists, who were compensated by bonds on which they continue to draw interest.

Covered Up Jim Crow

"He did not join the filibuster against the FEPC bill or against the bill to abolish the poll tax, even though he voted for neither of these bills."

The reason that Sparkman did not join a filibuster against these civil rights bills was that he was a member of the House, where filibusters are not possible. It

## Acquittal of Two Smith-Act Victims Heartens Resistance to Witch-Hunt

By Tom Conlan

In the fifth month of the New York trial of 15 secondary Communist Party leaders, Judge E. J. Dimock directed a verdict of acquittal for two of the defendants, Isidore Begun and Simon W. Ger-

son. These proof of membership was not enough. The prosecution, accustomed to wholesale convictions in previous cases, failed to take the hint and did not bother to produce evidence concerning other "illegal activity."

### OTHER SIDE OF RULING

In rendering his ruling, Judge Dimock stated "without elaboration" that he was ordering "the judgment of acquittal as to Begun and Gerson" while denying the defense motion "with respect to all others." In other words, while freeing two defendants on a technicality, this ruling sanctioned the prosecution of the remaining 13, against whom presumably sufficient evidence had been produced and who by the same token, were being granted a "fair trial."

### MARCANTONIO AND STONE

The Stalinists view it not only as a "major" victory but also as a "first break" in the entire witch-hunt.

Echoing the same optimism, Vito Marcantonio, ALP state chairman, called the freeing of Gerson and Begun "the first major breakdown" of the witch-hunt.

The liberal columnist I. F. Stone, in addition to "honoring" the judge for this decision, declared that it "is an historic victory for civil liberty, and affords some protection to all on the Left."

Two Stalinist spokesmen, Schneiderman and Yates, hailed it as an "outstanding victory for the Bill of Rights that marks the turning point in the battle to defeat the Smith and McCarran Acts."

### THE REAL FACTS

The facts in the acquittal of the two defendants do not bear out these exaggerated claims. As Stone himself points out in his Sept. 25 *Compass* column, the judge's decision was based on a legal technicality. And what is even more important, it was the witch-hunters themselves who created the legal tangle that made the acquittals possible.

In brief, the situation is as follows: The McCarran Act requires members of the Communist Party to register. In order to get around the constitutional safeguard against self-incrimination, a clause was included in the McCarran Act to the effect that membership in the CP does not itself constitute a violation of any criminal statute.

In the course of the trial, Judge Dimock noted several times that the prosecution had failed to produce any evidence against Begun and Gerson other than membership in the CP. The judge went on to repeatedly warn the

defendants that the door open to intensify their attack on civil liberties. Judge Dimock's ruling may be seized upon as a pretext to "tighten up" the thought-control legislation and plug up "loopholes" in the existing laws. A drive may ensue for even more savage legislation.

This danger of a new and more vicious stage in the witch-hunt is not an imaginary one. Raids and new indictments continue — witness the recent arrests of 18 more Stalinist leaders and the arrest of Earl Browder and his wife.

While reaction shows no sign of abating, the one force that could effectively check it is still lacking, namely, a broad united front of all liberal and labor and minority organizations in defense of civil rights.

Failling such a mass movement, it may be possible to gain some partial and episodic victories against the witch-hunt but never to beat it back, or even halt it.

## UE CONVENTION BACKS NO TICKET IN ELECTION

By Jean Simon

CLEVELAND, Sept. 19 — The 17th annual convention of the independent United Electrical Workers, which opened here last Monday with an address by UE President Albert J. Fitzgerald calling for a labor party and

stating that the Progressive Party is not the answer to labor's needs, concluded today with adoption of a political resolution that fails to call specifically for a labor party and permits endorsements of capitalist party candidates.

This resolution attacks both the Republican and Democrat parties and states that "the workers' political problem of winning freedom, peace and security will be solved" only when they join with the farmers, Negro people and small business men "to form a new political party of their own."

In the meantime, however, the resolution states that "the UE endorses no political party and is captured by no political party." It urges UE members to concentrate on "Congressional elections" and states that "the UE political programs should be the basis upon which we give our support to the candidates, be they Republican, Democratic, Progressive or Independent."

This resolution, which appears to be neutral in the matter of what candidates to support, is actually designed to avoid a rejection of the Progressive Party and to allow local unions to endorse Progressive Party candidates. Confronted with the objections voiced by Fitzgerald to the Progressive Party, the Stalinist elements worked out a

formula to keep the door open to endorsement of Progressive Party candidates by keeping the door open to support of candidates of the old-line capitalist parties as well.

### URGE UNITY

The convention also adopted a resolution calling for labor unity against the united employer attack on the unions. The resolution made no specific proposal but urged only "special efforts in bringing unity and united action."

The resolution on wages called