

LABOR'S STAKE IN FOREIGN POLICY

(See Editorial Page 3)

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Columbia U. Dean Refuses to Assist Gov't Snoopers

In a forthright and courageous move, Dean Carl W. Ackerman of the Columbia University School of Journalism last week withdrew cooperation from the witch hunters. His statement, published as an article in the bulletin of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, said:

"After twenty-two years as dean, I am now discontinuing my practice of cooperating with Federal, state and police investigating agencies, except on written request and on advice of counsel." Dean Ackerman charged that the social and political views of students are investigated by Federal agencies who "follow up leads like prosecuting attorneys." He added that "Students are 'tried' secretly without their knowledge and without an opportunity of explaining or defending their records before employment by any governmental agency."

Ackerman pointed out that he had justified his previous practice of cooperating with Federal investigators before his own conscience on the ground that the investigations were aimed at "uncovering Communists." But he found that not a single "communist" was turned up by investigations among his graduates.

In Ackerman's view, the issue at stake is not academic but political freedom. He said he feared that American journalism is reaching the end of the era of journalistic independence because "the freedom of individual independent expression of opinion on controversial subjects may be damaging and possibly dangerous to the individual's desire and necessity of earning a living."

He pointed out that neither a degree nor an "A" record are good enough recommendations for a college graduate looking for a job, because employers ask

"searching questions" about "political and social attitudes."

"If a dean or professor should answer in a particular case that the student's views are 'left of center,'" Ackerman said, "the student will not likely be employed, even though the dean may add Anne O'Hare McCormick (editorial columnist for the N.Y. Times) once described President Roosevelt as being 'left of center.' Under President Roosevelt's Administration it was popular to be 'left of center.' Today that term is a red flag of suspicion."

Rosenberg Appeal To Supreme Court Charges Perjury

Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, under sentence of death in Sing Sing, have placed a new appeal for re-trial before the Supreme Court, charging their conviction and sentence were secured through the use of "deliberate false testimony by their prosecutor."

The Rosenbergs charge that the testimony of David Greenglass was perjured. Greenglass claimed to have drawn a certain "atomic secret" from memory in a few hours; four top atomic scientists have submitted affidavits to the court testifying that for a man with Greenglass' limited education, such a feat was impossible.

Atomic scientist Dr. Ralph E. Lapp stated on March 2 that the "secret" that Greenglass claims to have given the Rosenbergs "could not be written on a piece of paper or on a ton of paper."

The defense charges that Government prosecutor Irving Saypol filled the press with prejudicial stories about the many atomic scientists who would be called to testify against the Rosenbergs. In fact, none of them were ever called, and some of the scientists named by Saypol have since stated that they find the testimony of the Rosenbergs "more believable" than that of their accusers.

A lengthy appendix to the defense brief presented to the Supreme Court analyzes the press attacks on the Rosenbergs before and during the trial, and their prejudicial effect. The petition also criticizes the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which hit prosecutor Saypol for his "reprehensible" tactics (the words of the Circuit Court) but refused to grant a new trial.

The government has replied to the defense brief, in the main, by raising a series of technicalities: the defense brief was filed "too late" etc. The Supreme Court is expected to rule soon.

Half Million In L.A. Hear SWP Views

LOS ANGELES, April 7 — More than a half million people here are estimated to have heard the Socialist Workers Party program against the Korean war and the witch hunt and for socialism in the election campaign of Myra Tanner Weiss for mayor and Robert E. Morgan for member of the Board of Education. The voters are balloting today.

Waging the most intensive election campaign in SWP history here, the party's candidates have talked before 33 labor and civic organizations, appeared on six television programs, five of them each an hour long, and spoken twice over the radio. Mrs. Weiss has appeared five times on KNBH-TV programs and last week-end on KLCAT-TV. She has also presented her views over radio station KNX and KECA-ABC.

Among the unions which have heard the SWP candidates are the AFL Carpenters, Warehouse Local 26, AFL Sheet Metal Workers, Studio Carpenters, AFL Cannery Workers, CIO Shoeworkers, CIO Council Committee, Affiliated Teachers Committee, AFL Cabinet Makers, and CIO United Auto Workers Local 509.

Other organizations addressed include the Citizens for Better Schools, Community Service Organization, Culver City Democratic Club, L. A. Committee of Faculty Representatives, Republican Women, West Valley Homeowners, Laurel Canyon Neighborhood Club, Huntington Park Republican Women, Methodist Church Forum, University Women's Club, Florence FEPC, YMCA (Negro-white), Eastside Southland Jewish Organization and the Independent Progressive Party.

SHE SETS THEM RIGHT

Two days before elections, the mayoralty candidates appeared on "Freedom Forum," a television program. The two Republicans, Mayor Brown and Rep. Norris Poulson, called each other "Red!" Brown smeared Poulson for attempting to prevent deportation of a woman accused of being "subversive." Poulson called Brown's weak housing program "socialistic."

Mrs. Weiss denied both of them the honor of being reds or socialists and pointed out that a socialist program would use the wealth which now goes into war for such basic needs as housing.

(See page 4 for more about the SWP campaign in Los Angeles.)



PROPOSED POLICE-STATE LEGISLATION AROUSES PROTEST MOVEMENT IN OHIO

The attempts of witch hunters in the Ohio legislature to enact the Devine bill (House Bill 308), has touched off a protest movement headed by Ohio chapters of the American Civil Liberties Union and organized labor.

The Devine bill, which has previously been analyzed in *The Militant*, is an "anti-subversive" measure far more flagrant in its violations of the Bill of Rights than police-state measures such as the Trucks law in Michigan.

The fact that union locals and other groups interested in defending civil liberties in the important industrial state of Ohio have begun to publicize the unconstitutional provisions of the Devine bill is heartening. In almost every state legislature numerous "anti-subversive" acts have been introduced. This disease began with the Overlaw in Maryland and the Trucks law in Michigan and has spread throughout the 48 states. Unless the epidemic is stopped, traditional American liberties must succumb to the dread infection of thought control, guilt by association and political proscription.

The March 1953 bulletin of the Cleveland Civil Liberties Union

carries a report on the more than half dozen "anti-subversive" bills before the Ohio legislature. It states: "Supposedly intended to protect our freedom, these bills in fact present a real threat to and would constitute a limitation upon that freedom."

The article goes on to analyze particularly the sweeping provisions and loose definitions of the Devine bill. Here the usual prohibition of "the overthrow of the government by force" — itself a loose and frequently misused formula — is widened to include the "attempt to commit any act intended" to "overthrow, destroy or alter constitutional government in Ohio or the U.S."

Under this far-reaching provision, witch hunters could pretend to see in the acts of those they disliked politically the "intention" to "alter" constitutional government whether the acts were really committed or merely attempted. Penalties would be five to 20 years imprisonment and \$5,000 to \$20,000 in fines.

The Ohio Works Organizer, newspaper of Local 1330, CIO Steelworkers in Youngstown, in its issue of April 3 carries an

article entitled "McCarthyism Proposed for Ohio." According to this union paper, "Agents of McCarthyism are busy in the Ohio State legislature. They have proposed laws that would take great strides in the direction of establishing a police state. The law which most closely symbolizes this police state legislation is House Bill 308, introduced by Representative Devine, a Republican and former FBI agent."

The article further points out that under the Devine bill "militant strikes could very well be construed as acts interfering with the national security and then unions would be victims of this witch hunt."

To date, the best organized campaign against a state thought-control law is that being waged in Michigan against the Trucks law. This fight is spearheaded by the non-partisan Citizens Committee Against the Trucks Law.

Defenders of American civil liberties in other states where the police-state laws are filling the legislative hoppers with witch-hunt laws can do well to emulate the Michigan opponents of the Trucks law.

Plans to "Spring" New Provocative Demands To Block Real Peace

By Art Preis

General Eisenhower has made clear at the very start of the renewed cease-fire negotiations that a truce in Korea will not bring fulfillment of the peace promises he made

to the American people during his election campaign. U.S. troops, whatever the outcome of current negotiations, will be kept in Korea "for quite a while," Eisenhower admitted. Conclusion of a truce, it is plain, will not mean peace but only a breathing spell between active military operations.

Big Business and the Big Brass, now directly running the government in Washington, have elaborated plans to use any breathing spell to press ruthlessly for the most far-reaching concessions from the Soviet Union and China. They aim to strengthen the counter-revolutionary forces for suppressing colonial independence movements in Southeast Asia, Africa and Latin America. At the same time, they intend to advance their preparations for atomic war.

Speaking on April 7 of what would happen even if a formal peace agreement is reached in Korea, Eisenhower declared flatly that "our men and those of our allies will have to stay in that region for quite a while." Thus, on a moment's notice and on slight pretext Eisenhower could order the troops to take further "police action" in Korea.

Eisenhower indicated his grave fear of resistance by the American troops to remaining in Korea once a truce is reached. He is mindful of the GI demonstrations in 1945 that speeded the demobilization of the U.S. armed forces. He said:

"Once inaction sets in and the impatience of the American begins to manifest itself, it is really tough to keep before him just the conception of stern duties and expect him to forget his groans and his gripes and his disappointment in being so far from home."

According to an April 8, Washington dispatch of the United Press, "Administration leaders are concerned chiefly about a wave of public peace sentiment such as that which hastened demobilization after World War." They expressed concern that a truce would inspire "demands for a reduction in defense spending and a public outcry to 'bring the boys home.'"

FEAR IMPERIALISM

The Burmese are not swallowing that, particularly in view of Eisenhower's open declaration regarding support of Chiang's troops for possible invasion of the Chinese mainland.

Ronald Stead reported from Singapore in the April 4 *Christian Science Monitor*, that the Burmese government is putting into practice one of the resolutions adopted by the Asian Socialists at their first international conference in Rangoon last February. This called for refusal of outside aid except from international bodies "in order to reduce the dangers . . . of imperialism . . . inherent in such assistance." This is a revealing commentary on the growing fear and opposition to U.S. imperialism in Asian countries previously considered to be allies of this country.

FEAR OF DEPRESSION

Added to these anxieties is the capitalists' pervasive fear that a diminution or even a mere stabilization of war spending at the present level will lead to economic crisis. At no time since 1939 has the American capitalist system been able to keep going without the help of large government military expenditure. In no year since 1945 has the direct military spending been less than fourteen times the 1939 expenditures.

These are among the major economic and military factors explaining the "peace jitters," the hesitations and disquiet reflected in the capitalist press and voiced by Washington officials at the truce concessions offered by the Chinese and North Korean governments.

If the Big Business and military rulers nevertheless accept a temporary truce, it will be not from choice but iron necessity — the powerful resistance of the Chinese and North Koreans, the almost universal hostility to U.S. intervention in Asia, the reluctance of Wall Street's allies to continue the fighting and the steadily mounting suspicion even in this country that the U.S. military has been deliberately stalling a truce.

The terms for a truce offered by the Chinese-North Korean leaders more than fulfill all the

(Continued on page 2)

Twin Cities Hold National Lead In Sub Campaign

By Dorothy Johnson
Campaign Manager

The Militant Subscription Campaign maintained a steady pace this week with a gain of 69 six-month subs and 38 one-year subs. The Twin Cities brought in the most sales and are still in the lead. Chicago is in second place, but this week New York narrowed the gap between the two cities by 442 points. The Los Angeles comrades moved from seventh to fourth place on the national score-board with the second best gain of the week. The Seattle comrades also made a good gain of 486 points, moving up from ninth to fifth place.

Paul of the Twin Cities sets the pace for subgetters. This week he advanced from third to first place with a score of 346. Ray, also of the Twin Cities, is a close second with a score of 316; and Howard A. of Chicago has 306 points.

Minneapolis Literature Agent Helen Sherman reports the latest news of the competition among the three Twin Cities teams. She writes, "The Classy Strugglers of St. Paul are out in front this week with a score of 1,136 points. The Marching Militants with 913 points and the Coover Scouts with 757 points bring the Minneapolis-St. Paul total to 2,896 points — 63 subs and 128 single-copy sales in three weeks time."

"One of the most gratifying results of this campaign has been the new subs. Helen reported with a new one-year sub this week obtained from an active CIO unionist, whom we originally met in the election campaign last fall. Another new sub from a university student was brought in by Dave and Bob. You don't need a fancy sales talk to sell the Militant: Give your friend a couple of introductory copies of the paper to read; go back for a visit and a sub. When we call their attention to *The Militant*, forward-thinking, conscientious workers today see in the paper a progressive and fighting program for the cause of labor and all American people. The Militant sells itself, given a good start and follow-up direction!"

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Moscow Attempts to Appease Mass Discontent

By John G. Wright

No sooner was Stalin embalmed than three major Soviet developments unfolded. First — a definite swing in foreign policy toward "peaceful co-existence" with the imperialists. Second, a number of concessions to the Soviet masses in order to allay the deep popular discontent under Stalin. Third, a repudiation of Stalin's intense oppression of national minorities which was dramatized on January 1953 by the arrest of top Kremlin physicians amid a campaign of anti-Semitism. Stalin's purge was still in progress when Malenkov & Co. took office. Reversing this policy, Beria released the victimized physicians and is now busy purging the purgers in the former Ministry of State Security and in party circles.

It is a highly significant facet of post-Stalin, internal Soviet life that, within 30 days of Stalin's demise, his "heirs" found it indispensable to purge their repressive apparatus. Let us explain why.

Stalin's sudden death precipitated a critical situation for the bureaucracy. This transition of rule

from one bureaucratic clique, headed by Stalin to another, headed pro-tem by Malenkov, coincides with a tremendous outward and inward expansion of Soviet power and industry, greatly speeding the growth of Soviet cultural forces. To avert a clash between the bureaucratic oligarchy and the mass of the people, the first post-Stalin regime has to take the path of concessions, intending, it goes without saying, to keep these to a minimum.

Hence come pledges of peace and prosperity (Malenkov, Molotov). Hence a pledge to "safeguard" Soviet civil liberties (Beria). Hence instructions to Soviet jurists to revise the criminal code, making it more "lenient," particularly as regards the Draconian labor laws, accompanied by an amnesty for certain categories of prisoners (Voroshilov). Hence material concessions, the most sweeping price reductions in the post-war era, slashing many of the main staples in Soviet mass diet — potatoes, fresh cabbage, sauerkraut, beets, etc., by 50% (Malenkov).

But all this did not prove enough. It was also necessary to

call a halt publicly to Stalin's purge, thus paving the way for a reversal. Hence Beria's dramatic decree of April 4, setting free 15 Kremlin doctors only yesterday denounced as "monsters with scientific degrees and titles" and today declared innocent victims of a frameup, their confessions extorted by "impermissible methods" under an admitted anti-Semitic campaign; and, last but not least, announcing the arrest of responsible "workers of the investigating section of the former Ministry of State Security."

Capitalist periodicals and commentators of all shades have centered their attention on an indicated tussle of contending groups (among the Kremlin "big chiefs") and on the foreign-policy implications of the purge (need to rehabilitate the Kremlin abroad, a possible policy reversal toward Israel and the like). But these aspects, though not unimportant, are quite subordinate. In fact, derivative.

Behind the ideas and slogans now being brought to the fore, behind the muffled struggle at the Kremlin summits, is a stifled but passionate political struggle

which is today being waged throughout the Soviet Union, and which finds its distorted expression in the moves of the leaders, from Malenkov on down. This applies to Beria's purge.

In our judgment a most revealing political confession in this connection is to be found in Pravda's editorials on Beria's decree. It is two-fold in its content:

On the one hand, it is admitted: "Now when Soviet people feel so profoundly and realize the significance of the victory of Socialism in our country, we must be particularly vigilant and particularly demanding with regard to the observance of Soviet Socialist law" (Pravda, April 6).

The bureaucratic mind, especially its "perfectly bourgeois fear," as Trotsky called it, of the Soviet masses is glaringly revealed in these words. What was permissible yesterday, is impermissible today. The Kremlin chiefs shout to their underlings: Be "particularly vigilant," be "particularly demanding," not to feed mass discontent; don't compromise our regime too crassly and openly! Contained in Pravda's words is

proof, as Trotsky predicted, that Stalin's Constitution ("the Soviet Socialist law") is providing a semi-legal cover for opposition to the regime (Soviet people "feel" "realize," etc., differently today) and to cope with these new mass moods naked repressions no longer suffice; deception is needed.

On the other hand, Pravda continues to fulminate against "spies and diversionists," against "bearers of bourgeois ideology and degenerates," (a poetic label for the restorationist Right) and against "Trotskyites" and "Bukharinites" (i.e., the Soviet Left) who, for the first time since pre-war, are figuring prominently again in all Soviet debates.

This hysteria of bureaucratic hatred of Trotskyism, actually of increasing workers' opposition to the Bonapartist oligarchy, grows in proportion to concessions the post-Stalin regime finds itself compelled to make. Be "particularly vigilant," the Kremlin chiefs warn their underlings in effect, lest you relax for a moment ruthless repressions against every "Trotskyite" attempt to replace our bureaucratic auto-

cracy by genuine Soviet democracy.

Above all, warns the Kremlin, don't mistake Beria's exposure of the frameup of 15 doctors for more than it is. It is intended primarily to refurbish our apparatus of repressions and frameups, the better to exert it, the better to mask the big political frameups of the past, the easier to carry out future frameups, along with the current ones.

Beria has, unquestionably, a personal motive for the purge. His is assuredly the hand behind the decimation of "adventurist" elements in the secret police, the party and the government. But it's the new needs that are behind Beria's hand, especially the need to lop away ruling elements unable or reluctant to adjust themselves to the new situation. Behind Beria is the "more flexible" policy of the now dominant Kremlin group, reacting to pressure of historical factors stronger than any Soviet Minister, even the Secret Police Chief.

Space limitations bar us from a detailed analysis of the new

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"A Brother Trotskyite Near Mount Ephraim"

By George Lavan

Professional anti-Semites in this country have been undergoing a very interesting change in line. The change dates from the emergence of anti-Semitism as an officially inspired part of government policy in East Europe and the USSR. Before that Communism and Stalinism had always been denounced by the professional race-haters as the fruition of the "Jewish conspiracy" against Christians. With the disregard for facts that distinguish this breed from the smallest up to and including Hitler, they described the Russian Revolution as the doing of "Jews" and the Leninist and then the Stalinist regime as the rule of the "Jews."

Then in the post-war period the expression of anti-Semitism in the Soviet press began to attract their attention. Finally the Slansky trial in Czechoslovakia, quickly followed by the arrest and "confessions" of the Jewish physicians in Moscow, made indisputable the fact of the Kremlin's anti-Semitism.

Overnight the Jew-baiting sheets changed their line. They became supporters of Stalin, making him out to be the defender of the Christians against the Jews. At this moment there must be much pacing of the floor in the editorial chambers of the anti-Semitic papers as their editors wonder, along with the rest of the world, just what is happening in Moscow. Does the release of the Jewish doctors and the arrest of government officials who framed them up mean the abandonment of official anti-Semitism? Or is it only a temporary move in a desperate fight between factions? Only future developments can give the answer. In the meantime the anti-Semites have their line.

Interestingly enough their line is the identification of the "Jewish conspiracy" with the Trotskyist movement. The Militant of Feb. 23 discussed the New Jersey race-hate sheet Common Sense. Here the Kremlin's anti-Semitism was hailed as a praiseworthy effort by the "gentiles" to throw off "the Jewish yoke." The editor wrote: "Trotsky a typical Jewish fanatic, lived only for the mass murder of white Christians. Stalin finally became disgusted at the continual blood-bath. . . ."

Last anyone thought that this line was peculiar to Common Sense, it is worth examining an expensively printed pamphlet of 52 pages, complete with maps, entitled "The Earth Sitteth Still" by John Henry Monk. This is published in Portsmouth, Virginia.

The title page proclaims that it is "An Exposition of the Formula of International Intrigue." The "Formula" it turns out is that world-famous, long-discredited forgery, "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion."

The Protocols of Zion forgery was issued at the beginning of the century. It came out of Czarist Russia where anti-Semitism was officially stirred up by the government as a "safety valve" for the people's discontent. When social or political conditions were dangerous the government would instigate "pogroms," i.e. massacres of Jews, or hold trials at which Jews would be accused of murdering Christian children in order to obtain their blood for religious rituals.

The Protocols purported to be the plan for world conquest drawn up by the leaders of the Jews. It was, the forgery alleged, a world-wide and diabolical scheme to corrupt, mislead the Christians and then to enslave them.

Though long since exposed as a crude fake, the Protocols continue to be the favorite "proof" of professional anti-Semites of a Jewish plot against the rest of mankind.

"The Earth Sitteth Still" is a partial reprinting of the Protocols with a running commentary and "historical illustration." Written in a pseudo-historical style, with unrelated quotations from ancient Greek, Latin and Hebrew literature, the pamphlet "traces" the "plots" of "Trotskyism-Zionism-Titoism" practically from the beginning of time.

Thus, commenting on a passage from the Old Testament where the Hebrews sent "five men . . . to spy out the land, and to search it" (Judges 18), the obsessed author says: "On their way northward, the five spies lodged one night in the house of a brother Trotskyite near Mount Ephraim."

In a section on the "Origin of the Pharisees," he writes: ". . . they were and are, dved-in-the-wool Trotskyites," which was shown to be in the AP reports from Vienna, late in November, 1952, in connection with the announced intended execution of 11 subversive Jews and their three goya stool nieces, Trotskyism being a term that is synonymous with Zionism." (Emphasis in the original.)

Social legislation in this country is labelled "creeping socialism" by Senator Taft and his ilk. But that is too mild for the anti-Semitic madmen: "We call Trotskyism communism 'creeping socialism' and 'collectivism'! We do not have the guts to call it what it is — Trotskyism." Another favorite target of fascist groupies in the U.S. is UNESCO. According to the author, it, too, is part of the gigantic Jewish-Trotskyist conspiracy: "UNESCO (of the UN) supports to the hilt Titoism and Zionism. Hence UNESCO is Trotskyist communist one hundred per cent."

There is, of course, a lot more, just as vicious and psychoanalytic. What is the point in reporting such trash? Unfortunately in our crazy capitalist society the working class can't afford not to pay attention to what the professional race-haters are writing. Nazi Germany and its mountain of corpses prove that.

Peasant Land Seizures Spark Guatemalan Agrarian Reform

By Harry Frankel
(Third of a series.)

In last week's article, I described how the Guatemalan city workers, together with the agricultural laborers, have become the spearhead of the revolution since the overthrow of the Ubico dictatorship in 1944. Guatemala has changed in many ways since then, but it must not be thought that any of these changes have been of a fundamentally anti-capitalist nature. None of the reforms have broken through the capitalist framework. What has been true, however, is that the social reforms are being forced through by a working-class and petty-bourgeois coalition against the opposition of Guatemalan landowners and top capitalists and against foreign capital.

In his Feb. 28 speech quoted in last week's article, Dr. Guillermo Toriello, Guatemalan ambassador to the U.S., gave his view of the tasks of the revolution as follows: "Carrying forward the economic and social transformation of the country by seeing to it that the people are better fed, that wages rise, that agrarian reforms are effected, that agricultural mechanization, that industrialization proceeds, that communications are improved and that capitalist methods of production are instituted."

Since 1944, some progress has been made along these lines, mainly under the impulsion of the labor movement. Foreign companies have been regulated more closely, currency reform and control instituted, a labor code promulgated and a social security institute established, other institutes like those devoted to Indian affairs, to the development of production and cooperatives, etc., have been created and as a result of these actions as well as of the conditions on the world market, wages have risen and industrial activity and foreign trade have grown.

AGRARIAN REFORM

Of all the social-revolutionary processes under way, the most important has been the agrarian reform. The Agrarian Reform Law was passed on June 16, 1952. Under the law, peasants organized into local committees (usually by the federations of labor and of agricultural labor) may denounce the estates of large landowners which are mostly uncultivated. These lands can then be seized, the owner indemnified with 3%

25-year agrarian bonds, and the land then distributed among the peasants either on a life tenancy or a 25-year purchase basis. This law was declared unconstitutional by the Guatemalan Supreme Court, but since this court is subordinate to the Guatemalan Congress, it was reorganized early this year with the removal of four judges who had voted against the law and the appointment of four new ones.

Landowners are shouting that "communists" run the Agrarian Reform department. They say the Workers (Communist) Party dominates both the labor federation and the agricultural laborers federation, and that these two bodies control the local and provincial committees that are carrying out the expropriations. The landowners had been offered seats on the local and provincial committees, as well as on the Agrarian Reform Council, but they never filled these places.

BY THEIR OWN PETARD

Since compensation is based upon tax valuation, and since the landowners have set the value of their own lands very low in order to defraud the government of taxes, they now find themselves hoist by their own petard. A dispatch in the Feb. 20 U.S. News and World Report complains: "Owners find that they take terrific losses on lands that are seized. It is the practice here for

the owner, rather than a public assessor, to set the valuation of his land for tax purposes, and he always has set it low. A farm worth \$100,000 might be valued for tax purposes at \$5,000 or \$10,000. Now, under the Agrarian law, this valuation becomes the price at which the land is taken over for redistribution. Furthermore, the owner is paid, not in cash, but in 25-year agrarian bonds, which many Guatemalans think will be worthless."

Under the Agrarian law, the 800,000 acres of national farms, formerly German-owned but seized by the Ubico government during the war, will also be parcelled out. These represent only 10% of the country's arable land, but produced around a third of the country's \$77,000,000 coffee crop last year. So far as private estates are concerned, up to about six weeks ago the official Gazette listed expropriations of 39,000 acres from 32 private estates. Petitions filed for the expropriation of many more estates are being processed. Three-quarters of the 300,000 acres owned by the United Fruit Company have been taken, and this company, its appeal refused by President Arbenz, is now appealing to the Guatemalan Supreme Court. At the same time, the assets of the International Railways of Central America, a United Fruit Co. subsidiary, were attached early in March because of non-payment of a government tax claim of \$3,500,000.

PEASANT SEIZURES

It must not be imagined that the land reform has been an entirely peaceful process. The N. Y. Times of Feb. 21, putting things with its usual Wall Street tone, gives us nevertheless some slight picture: "Inflammatory speeches by national leaders have been carried to the back country by agitators, mainly Communists or Communist sympathizers, seeking to stir the Indians into forceful seizures of private property." The Christian Science Monitor of Jan. 23 carried the following dispatch:

"Guatemala City — Police say knife-wielding peasants in south-eastern Guatemala are taking the national land reform law into their own hands and are seizing plantation property. Some 400 farm workers armed with machetes were reported to have gibbeted land in the Asuncion Mita area near the El Salvador border. The police say they were led by a regional officer of the Confederation of Farm Workers, a Communist-dominated group. Guatemala's Communist Party, which is closely tied in with the government of President Arbenz, has agitated for forced partitioning of land. This has already led to violence in several areas."

Another CSM dispatch, shortly after the Feb. 9 rightist revolt which was put down by workers and soldiers, gives a better picture of the reasons for the peasant seizures, and shows clearly why the motive force behind the agrarian reform has been: "The (Supreme) court had ordered a stay of expropriation of property involving a test case of the agrarian law on the grounds that the act denied landowners appeal to the normal law courts. It proposed to give the lower courts time to study this situation. In recent weeks, peasants, stirred by left-wing agitators and unwilling to wait for completion of the machinery for expropriation, have moved in and taken over land in various parts of the country. Appeals by landowners for protection against seizures so far have produced little results — another evidence of the weakness of the government in opposing its ultra left-wing supporters. The agrarian legislation is intended to give untitled government and private land to landless farmers. The government is authorized to expropriate such private holdings, compensating the owners. Due to lack of funds to pay for expropriated land, however, the government has not gone very far with expropriation of private lands. This slowness in turn has helped spark the spontaneous land seizures."

CAUSE OF CONFLICT

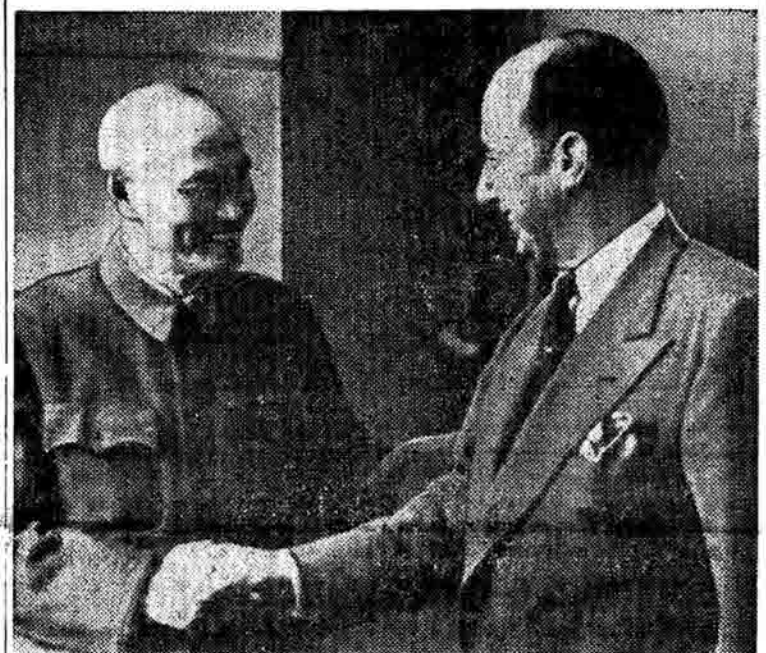
The picture of rural violence and seizure may well be exaggerated by Wall Street propagandists for their own purposes. Recently they reported "rivers of blood" in the streets after a demonstration which in fact caused only one death. The trend is nonetheless unmistakable. The N. Y. Times of Feb. 21 reports the Minister of Economy, Robert Farjuel, as saying: "Trouble and violence had to come. You cannot carry out anything as basic as land reform without trouble and violence. In Mexico it cost 200 lives. If we get away with losing 200 we will consider ourselves fortunate." Whether Farjuel said these words or not, the thought is a true one. In a country in which fully 70% of the arable land has been owned by only 2.2% of the population, and where the bottom three-fourths of the peasant population owned only 10% of the land, a land overturn is bound to involve serious social conflict, which is by no means ended in Guatemala.

What is the meaning of the land reform action being carried on by the present government? Behind the present official "powers" loom the popular forces of the Guatemalan people. Without the ferment of mass proletarian and peasant action unleashed by the revolution, there could be no land reform, nor even any nationalistic government. The petty-bourgeois democrats, between the hammer of imperialism and the anvil of the popular insurrection, today go partly with the revolution, even giving limited expression to some revolutionary demands. But this can be only an interim stage. Either the people will seize hold of power more directly, or the revolution will be undermined by the landowner-imperialist combination. An important factor in this developing process is the existing leadership of the mass movement: the Workers (Communist) Party, which we will try to examine more closely.

We must call for an end to the blockade on China and for the recognition of the new Chinese government. We must oppose any support, material or diplomatic, to the fascist butcher Chiang Kai-shek now holed up on Formosa under the protection of the U.S. fleet.

Not a penny, not a gun to the Syngman Rhee dictatorship in South Korea. Let the Korean people settle their own affairs. Stop interfering in the internal affairs of others. These also are demands the American people will have to press with all their power to block the step-by-step plan already set afoot to use the truce, if it comes, as a springboard to deadlier conflict.

Stevenson Meets Dictator



Adlai E. Stevenson, Democratic Presidential candidate in 1952, is warmly greeted by Chiang Kai-shek, butcher of the Chinese people, on his arrival in Taipei, Formosa.

U.S. Troops to Remain 'Quite a While' in Korea

(Continued from page 1)

exacting and stalling demands raised by the U.S. military negotiators. In fact, the concessions go beyond what the American generals and admirals had demanded. There can be no shadow of a doubt that if a truce is not achieved very quickly, the responsibility will rest completely on the shoulders of the bankers, war profiteers and generals.

"Voluntary repatriation" of war prisoners was never the real issue blocking the truce. This was an artificially contrived issue raised by the U.S. command.

A cessation of the fighting, even momentarily, puts on the agenda the big political questions that America's rulers want to evade. Recognition of the new government of China, the future of Formosa, the Indo-Chinese people's war of independence against French imperialism — these questions, so revealing of the reactionary aims of American Big Business' foreign policy, have been behind the reluctance of the ruling clique in Washington to agree to a truce.

But the indisputable readiness and eagerness of the Chinese and North Koreans to make a truce, even by making every concession so far demanded, has undercut Wall Street's pretenses for continuing the fighting. World sentiment places the onus for aggressive war designs on America's capitalist rulers. Eisenhower and his administration feel tremendous pressure for peace. They are under compulsion to attempt a diplomatic maneuver designed to shift the war onus onto the Soviet Union, China and their allies.

PLAN NEW DEMANDS

Wall Street's general staff in the White House, State Department and Pentagon has fully elaborated a series of provocative moves to follow a cease-fire in Korea, deliberately calculated to push for concession after con-

cession from the Soviet Union and its allies.

This whole plan to use a breathing-spell in Korea for diplomatic preparations for a bigger war to come was perfected at a nine-hour session of a special meeting of the National Security Council, the government's top policy body, called following the Chinese truce offer.

The elements and intent of that plan was first revealed by the April 8 Wall Street Journal, which is in the confidence of big-shot insiders who know the score.

The first "stinger" to be "sprung" will be to "ask the Reds to give all of the Korean peninsula up to its narrow neck — which is about 120 miles north of the current fighting line." If the Chinese and North Koreans give up their present dug-in military line, then the U.S. leaders will "spring" another big demand. "If the Communists do agree, then the U.S. aims to follow through with a request that they go further — agree to stop shipping arms to Red rebel Ho Chi Minh whose China-armed troops are fighting the French . . . in Indo-China." This would be a demand to abandon the independence fighters in Indo-China and place an anti-Chinese French army on China's border.

THEN SWITCH

That demand won, "the American idea would be to switch quickly to the other side of the world and ask Soviet Russia for a quickie peace pact in Austria" which "would pull out occupying Russian soldiers and officials." But that won't end the demands. "The series of 'ifs' continues," the Journal says. And "if the Chinese or the Russians refuse any of these requests, it is contemplated that U.S. propaganda expert C. D. Jackson will organize a worldwide campaign aimed at convincing the world the Reds don't want peace, really, despite their talk of it. That would be intended to prevent a breakdown in the rearmament effort. . . ."

Summarizing this plan for deliberately paving the way for a world war, the Journal cynically concludes that "the importance of this new policy — is that heads we win and tails we win too."

PEOPLE WOULD LOSE

The American diplomats may win, to be sure. Their bosses, the Wall Street bankers, arms industry and generals may jockey and maneuver this country into a ghastly H-Bomb war. But the American people and the people of all lands will be frightful losers.

Against Eisenhower's design for war, the American people must organize and fight for a pattern for peace. We must not place a scrap of confidence in the capitalist government in Washington, its diplomacy and its fake "peace" maneuvers intended to screen bigger war moves.

First and foremost, we must demand the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Korea. That is the only guarantee that the White House-Pentagon gang won't "spring" some provocative demand or move, at any time after a cease-fire, that will precipitate bloodier fighting than ever in Korea.

We must call for an end to the blockade on China and for the recognition of the new Chinese government. We must oppose any support, material or diplomatic, to the fascist butcher Chiang Kai-shek now holed up on Formosa under the protection of the U.S. fleet.

Not a penny, not a gun to the Syngman Rhee dictatorship in South Korea. Let the Korean people settle their own affairs. Stop interfering in the internal affairs of others. These also are demands the American people will have to press with all their power to block the step-by-step plan already set afoot to use the truce, if it comes, as a springboard to deadlier conflict.

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Cities		Pace-Setters	
Points		Points	
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New York	1,284	Howard A.	Chicago 306
Los Angeles	926	Milt	Twin Cities 286
Seattle	652	Charlie	Seattle 235
Buffalo	520	Bob R.	New York 208
Flint	520	Bob H.	Chicago 187
Newark	432	Natalie	Los Angeles 163
Cleveland	390	Dee	Chicago 161
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Detroit	365	Harry	Twin Cities 130
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Youngstown	182	Clara	Seattle 111
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San Francisco	26	Charlie	Twin Cities 104
Oakland	0	Dave L.	Detroit 104
General	150	Irving	Chicago 104
		John O.	Youngstown 104
		Sol	Flint 104

TWIN CITIES HOLD LEAD IN NATIONAL SUB DRIVE

(Continued from Page 1)

Los Angeles Campaign Manager S. Stern expects that work done in the election campaign will help lift their score in the second half of the sub drive. Oakland and San Francisco comrades expect good results in sales from the interest aroused by the election campaign in the Bay Area.

M. London reports that Boston also hopes to do better in the final three weeks. Bad weather has so far held back the work. Philadelphia and Newark plan to extend their campaigns an extra week to make up for a late start. Milwaukee reports plans for stepping up their drive with the selling of ten-week local delivery subs. The comrades have pledged an increase in other subs also.

Chicago Literature Agent Jacki Booth writes: "Things are still going well here, each comrade devoting much time and energy to the campaign. We plan to sell 100 copies of The Militant next week at Harvester, hitting all gates at different shift times."

St. Paul Literature Agent Winifred Nelson sends in three subs obtained in their plant by two comrades who are packing-house workers. She writes, "We are particularly happy about these subs because they are brand new." Winifred describes the Twin Cities plans for their Militant celebration at the end of the campaign. "We are going to combine our May Day celebration in the Twin Cities with our Militant celebration. It will be held May 1, at the state headquarters with Dorothy Schultz speaking on 'Militants March on May Day.' The speaker will trace the history of May Day and then honor the Twin Cities Militant sub-getters. We are giving three prizes: A Diego Rivera print, framed, a desk set, and a copy of the Katcher book. A social hour will follow at which the members of the winning team will be special guests, wearing badges as a mark of honor, and getting free lunch!"

CONCESSIONS GRANTED BY MOSCOW TO MASSES

(Continued from page 1)

Beria purge. We will indicate only (1) how it involves the party; the government, as well as the secret police; and (2) how this purge itself is a frameup.

Stalin's "nationalities" purge involved party, government and secret-police circles. Many prominent figures fell victims, including the pre-Ignatiev Minister of State Security and pre-Trotsky Minister of Public Health; Beria himself came under a cloud. Beria's purge of the purgers follows of necessity the same framework. Already purged is a deputy Security Minister, one Ryumin, an obvious scapegoat; gone is Ignatiev, who by Malenkov's original decree was transferred from the post of Security Minister to "leading work in the Council of Ministers of the USSR." A cloud now hovers in Malenkov's vicinity because of his close association with Ignatiev. In any case, part of the mechanics of Malenkov's removal from the post of General Secretary becomes clear.

Had Malenkov chosen to retain, assuming he had this choice, the post of General Secretary, he would have come directly in the line of fire against Ignatiev, one of his secretaries in both the Stalin and post-Stalin era. Malenkov's position is weaker than might have originally appeared. Conversely, Ignatiev's downfall strengthens not merely Beria but also Khrushchev, the new General Secretary. Khrushchev, for one, will work hand-in-glove with Beria in counter-purging the party ranks, if only to place his own agents in key party and government positions.

Beria's frameup within a frameup consists, in the first instance, of the elaborate pretense that the case of the Kremlin physicians is an exceptional miscarriage of "Soviet Justice." Covered up, as usual, are the real criminals, in this instance none other than Stalin — plus Malenkov, plus all other "big chiefs," including Beria personally. They knew the score all along.

Beria's frameup covers up the role of Stalin's chief agents, among them General Alexander N. Poskrebyshchev, who originally made public the arrest of nine physicians. How many other generals were involved? Are they, along with Poskrebyshchev, being shielded perhaps as a concession to the Soviet Big Brass? Bulganin in particular. Or is Beria keeping this in reserve?

Beria's frameup covers up the real scope of Stalin's purge. Many other leading Soviet scientists, academicians, etc., were caught in the anti-Semitic, anti-minorities dragnet. There is, for example, the case of three other Soviet academicians — one a woman, another S. D. Gurevich by name, identified by Pravda on Feb. 6 as a "veteran follower" of Leon Trotsky, all three accused of sabotage, espionage, etc. What is their fate? What happened to Abukamov, pre-Ignatiev Minister of State Security? Where is Tretyakov's predecessor as Minister of Public Health and all those party and staff members purged along with him?

The list of such questions is indeed a long one. Let us conclude with two more: Why has Beria announced no public trial for these "adventurers" who "have been arrested and brought to criminal responsibility"? And will they, too, "confess," along with their "gullible" superiors?

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Monday, April 13, 1953

Labor's Stake in Foreign Policy

Last week we published in full the bold front-page declaration — "We Shall Speak Up Now!" — in the March issue of *The Packinghouse Worker*. This voiced the recognition by the CIO United Packinghouse Workers leaders that "the military clique has lined up with the big business boys to usher in a new era of reaction" and that the attempt "to drive Americans into subservience to the wishes of the military and war profiteers . . . is the challenge facing labor today."

The statement denounces the "tragic waste of human life in Korea." It warns that the rulers of this country "are preparing the way for a bigger war on more fronts" and that "their blueprint calls for a divided and weakened labor movement."

We hail this as a sign of a growing awareness in the labor movement of the relation between American foreign policy and the fate of organized labor, of the connection between Wall Street's war program and its drive to intimidate, silence and, if possible, crush the unions.

From the tone of the Packinghouse Worker's declaration and the reports we have received of discussions and activities under way among the UPWA leaders and ranks, we get the feeling that they are serious and mean business. If so, they have the possibility of influencing the whole labor movement in the direction of an independent fighting policy aimed at halting the war drive and witch hunt.

One "Slight" Amendment on T-H

According to the April 3 *Wall Street Journal*, "A powerful drive is under way to add one short, simple sentence to the Taft-Hartley law — and thereby drastically change some of the rules governing labor-management relations in some places."

The *Wall Street Journal*, which is much interested in this question, says "the change looks mild enough, even non-controversial: It would say simply that nothing in Taft-Hartley prevents the states from writing and enforcing their own rules on striking and picketing."

But this innocent-looking change is loaded with dynamite, as this voice of Big Business makes clear: "Business groups are backing the change because they want the states free to enforce tighter curbs on union activity. . . it would put a crimp in unions' power in many states — open the way for new, tough laws in all 48."

Many states have already passed anti-labor laws exceeding the Taft-Hartley slave-labor measure in viciousness. However, the courts have held generally that the Taft-Hartley law has "pre-empted" the labor law field. It is true that T-H permits states to pass tougher measures on the closed shop, union shop, etc., but on other questions affecting the unions such as

What is most encouraging about the developments in the UPWA is not that the leadership has achieved full clarity on all the vast, complex and pressing problems of our times, but that they have recognized the responsibility of organized labor to fully and freely discuss these great fundamental problems and to carry out an independent program for their solution.

Alert and progressive elements in the labor movement will undoubtedly follow the developments in the UPWA very closely. We hope that the other unions will undertake similar discussion and evaluation of our basic problems of war, the witch hunt and the growth of military power in this country and develop a program of action to meet the "challenge facing labor today."

There is no power on earth which can halt the capitalist drive toward war and dictatorship except the organized workers. In their hands lies the fate of mankind. They alone, united and mobilized in action, can send the war-mongers and witch hunters scurrying. And the American workers, in the very citadel of world reaction, can play the decisive role in the titanic struggle that is shaping up.

Organized labor is the mightiest force in America, representing the interests of the overwhelming bulk of the populace. It is potentially irresistible. If it but will, it can become the unconquerable champion of the peoples of the earth in ending everywhere and forever the rule of the few.

picketing, strikes, contracts, etc., the courts have thrown out state laws that were worse than T-H provisions.

This is what Big Business wants to "rectify" by having Congress pass the one "slight" amendment.

Given a free hand by such an amendment, state legislatures will certainly follow up, the way they followed up Truman's "loyalty" purge order and the rash of Congressional measures that came later. The states picked up where the federal laws left off, going much farther down the road of police-state legislation. The infamous Ober law of Maryland, Trucks law of Michigan and proposed Devine law of Ohio are examples.

The new threat points up once again the inexcusable weakness of labor on the political front. The powerful American trade union movement, the strongest in the world, does not have a single spokesman of its own to stand up in Congress and fight the political representatives of Big Business on their own ground. And the situation is just as bad in the state legislatures.

Isn't it high time that the unions began organizing to put union men and women in office? Or must we wait until the shackles are forged and we are bound hand and foot before we wake up?

Apologists for the Kremlin

Apologists for the Kremlin's frame-up trials always fall back on the invariable "confessions" as proof that the GPU's victims have been "guilty as charged." Whenever irrefutable material evidence has been produced to show that these "confessions," however obtained, are false, the apologists fling the question that is supposed to be the stumper: "Why did they confess, if they weren't guilty?"

This stock argument of all whitewashers of Stalinist justice has been literally exploded in the face of the frame-up apologists by the admissions of the Soviet rulers themselves, in the case of the 15 leading doctors who were arrested last January and demonstratively denounced in the Soviet press as "foreign agents," "Zionist spies" and "assassins."

For reasons explained elsewhere in this issue, the Soviet Ministry of Internal Affairs has publicly disclosed that the 15 physicians were falsely accused. Most significant is the fact that their "confessions" had been obtained "by the use of impermissible means of investigation." This, as the Stalinist *Daily Worker* itself indicated, refers to the "third degree" — that is, physical and psychological torture. In short, the methods for extorting false confessions are no different in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe than they were in the Spanish Inquisition.

The American Communist Party has been put in a most embarrassing position by this disclosure. But as loyal and servile minions of the Kremlin bureaucracy, the American Stalinist leaders are doing their best to salvage what they can from the collapsed structure of the monstrous

frame-up system they have always shamelessly upheld.

The April 6 *Daily Worker* brushes over the significance of the disclosure of "why they confess." It darkly hints that anyway the whole business was the work of "foreign agents." There is "some plausibility," opines the *Worker*, to the idea of "penetration of the Soviet security apparatus by the agents of foreign powers, resulting in a frame-up attempt" and it is "not unbelievable" that this was "an attempt to discredit the administration of justice in the Soviet Union as a part of a 'psychological warfare' plan. . ."

Only the most glib, unthinking Stalinist follower will swallow this fantastic line. Moreover, the very source makes it suspect. We wonder, however, what explanation will be cooked up by the Stalinoid elements like Leo Huberman and Paul Sweezy, editors of *Monthly Review* magazine and professors of "independent socialists," who in their March issue defended the Moscow frame-up trials of the Thirties as well as the more recent anti-Semitic trials in Eastern Europe?

The *Monthly Review* has the job of fooling people who cannot be taken in by the crude propaganda of the *Daily Worker*. Huberman and Sweezy present the GPU poison with a sugar-coating of "objectivity," "impartiality" and "independence." The latest disclosures reveal how little "independence" there is in their "thinking" on the Kremlin trials. We await with interest the *Monthly Review's* "fresh thinking" on the Kremlin's own answer to the magazine's contention that the "confessions" only "underline the total inadequacy of the frame-up theory."

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent *The Militant's* policies. These are expressed in its editorials.

"Entered as second class matter March 7, 1944 at the Post Office at New York, N.Y., under the act of March 3, 1879."

Boycott, Strike Threatened If Malan Wins in Election

By Charles Hanley

What will happen if white-supremacist Prime Minister Malan is voted back into power in South Africa's April 15 election and South African native leaders carry through their plans for a new campaign of protest? Here is the answer of the April 2 *Wall Street Journal*: "Racial chaos in South Africa could spread like wildfire over all of Africa. That would weaken an important strategic hub of the democratic powers in any future war. It could shake the British Commonwealth to its very foundations."

There is good reason for this conclusion. The suppression of the colored peoples under the fascist-like Malan regime has reached extreme lengths. "Today, the dark-skinned man must carry a pass just to walk on public streets. He is practically barred from any work except the most menial kind. If he happens to be fired even from that sort of job, he can be forcibly deported from urban areas to semi-civilized tribal reserves hundreds of miles away," reports the Johannesburg correspondent of the *Wall Street Journal*.

"While Malanism frightens much of South Africa's European population, it is driving blacks, Asians and half-caste coloreds to desperation." And desperation is driving these victims of Malan's dictatorship to action. "For the first time, South Africa's 8.5 million blacks, one million half-caste coloreds and 350,000 Asians, mostly Indians, are now joined into one organized band, dedicated to the uplift of the non-Europeans."

BOYCOTT AND STRIKE

The National Action Committee of the non-Whites is considering a big industrial strike and buyers' boycott against the white capitalists and merchants. About 500,000 of South Africa's 730,000 industrial workers are Negroes and Indians: "Non-white leaders think they can now pull out 30%

to 40% of these persons at a moment's notice."

In rural areas white farmers depend on two million natives for field labor. Many of these could be expected to strike at the same time. And although it's difficult to organize the 400,000 colored mine workers who are recruited mostly from far-away regions, Negro resistance leaders hope



JOMO KENYATTA, leading Kenyan nationalist figure, has been framed and sentenced to seven years imprisonment at hard labor, on the charge that he organized and inspired the Mau Mau movement among Kikuyu tribesmen. The Mau Mau, a secret society, has been employing terrorist means in their struggle for liberation. While Kenyatta does not favor employing these means, he is an ardent nationalist fighter. Five others, unionists and nationalists, were also sentenced to 7 years each.

they can encourage tribal members to reject employment offers of mine recruiting officers.

While new mass actions are being planned by South African Negro leaders ("non-violent" actions so far, but liable to change their character should provocation and violence by the dominant white minority become excessive), open war between the Mau-Mau partisans and the British is developing in Kenya.

BRITISH VIOLENCE

Some 200 African "collaborationists" are said to have been killed in a Mau-Mau raid north of Nairobi, March 26. Another Mau-Mau group seized 50 rifles, 12 submachine guns, carbines and thousands of rounds of ammunition in the town of Naivasha after killing five African policemen. British troops and native police arrested 7,000 natives in one great mass raid April 3, holding 300 after questioning. On April 5, they arrested six members of the staff of Government House in Nairobi as members of the Mau-Mau organization.

Dozens of Mau-Mau partisans are being killed by British troops, hundreds are being arrested. (For example, 30 were slain and 86 captured in a fierce battle April 1-2.) Yet the war is only just starting, and the British know it. Easter leave for all security forces was cancelled. According to an April 2 Reuter dispatch one high Army officer declared the Mau-Mau were "every bit as good" as guerrillas he fought in Ethiopia and Greece during and after World War II. "The terrorists' recent big raids were carefully and systematically planned and carried out with astonishing skill," he states.

After a century of oppression culminating in the present South African government's anti-Negro fury, the peoples of Africa are on the move, adding their weight to the revolutionary ferment in Asia, the Middle East and Latin America. From Bolivia to Kenya and on to China the masses are awakening.

Beck Captures Large CIO Local In Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, April 3 — On Feb. 23 Local 1145 of the International Union of Electrical Workers withdrew from the CIO and affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers, AFL. In as transparent a "deal" as has been seen for a long time in the American trade union movement, Dave Beck of the Teamsters took over one of the largest CIO locals in the Northwest.

The pattern was much the same as the "deal" through which he gathered in some eight or ten thousand wholesale and retail clerks and warehouse employees from the CIO in St. Louis a short time ago.

Local 1145 IUE-CIO, comprising some 8,000 Minneapolis Honeywell Regulator employees, deserted industrial unionism in support of the deal made by Robert Wishart, president of the local, with Dave Beck.

So far as the records show, there was no more complaint about pay standards or job conditions among the Honeywell workers than in the ranks of the average CIO union at present. Bureaucratic suppression from the International office of the IUE-CIO has never been the basis for dissatisfaction in the ranks. No such complaint had been made by Wishart or any other of the local's officers. Local 1145 enjoyed almost complete autonomy.

Robert Wishart had been singled out on several occasions by the CIO tops and given wide authority in the Minnesota CIO movement. After the expulsion of the United Electrical Workers from the CIO he was put in charge of the campaign in the Twin Cities designed to win back expelled UE locals to the IUE.

From the first it was clear that Wishart showed something less than an acute interest in this task. As a matter of fact it can be said that his attitude facilitated the passage of some minor

CIO sections to the AFL Teamsters at that time.

For more than a year prior to the shift of Local 1145 to the Teamsters it had been common knowledge in both the AFL and CIO headquarters that Wishart was shaping his course toward this end. Wishart was president of the Hennepin County CIO Council. The Council delegates knew about his intentions. Local, state and national CIO officials who were fully aware of the situation kept all the powerful CIO machinery on dead center all this time. One of the largest CIO locals in Minnesota (not an important unit even on a national scale) was allowed to desert with scarcely a registered protest.

This attitude of the CIO elected and appointed officials reminds one of a pigeon transfixed by the python's menacing approach. The python swallows the terrorized victim without a struggle. The 8,000 production workers of the Honeywell Regulator Company, a national concern, are only one sector of the tens of thousands of CIO workers that the Teamsters have taken over in the recent period. Dave Beck's boast that he intends to build the Teamsters into what is now referred to as a three-million-man membership "empire" is not simply an idle boast. This powerful, bureaucratically controlled machine is being directed first of all towards raids on the CIO in the initial line of march towards the announced objective.

Weeks after Wishart's desertion, Adolf Germer, veteran organizer for the CIO, has been sent into Minneapolis. He issued a public statement about the situation which was recently published in *Minnesota Labor*, official state organ of the CIO.

"What is happening right now in Minnesota," he says, "is just part of the pattern that is shaping up all over the United States. The AFL is talking unity out of one side of its mouth and raiding out of the other. The AFL will effect organic unity with the CIO only on AFL terms, and you may feel sure those terms would be humiliating and degrading. AFL raiding has started in many parts of the country and in most instances it is the Teamsters who are carrying the ball. . . The Teamsters are headed nationally by Dave Beck, one of the slickest labor racketeers that ever walked in shoe leather. . . We'll take on Dave Beck just as we took on General Motors and General Electric — and we'll lick them, too!"

These are brave words indeed. But what action will be taken remains to be seen. Close observers say that Wishart since his break with the UE leadership several years ago has developed into a real businessman's business agent. There is a rumor here in AFL and CIO offices that Beck's real bid for Wishart's local was a "proposal" that Wishart could quite possibly replace Sidney Brenman, Vice-President of the Teamsters' and local Teamster's director who is at present in rather bad repute with a considerable section of the Teamsters membership.

Clams Up

Questioned in the \$5,100,000 damage suit brought by columnist Drew Pearson against Sen. McCarthy and eight others, the Senator's top aide, Raymond L. Kiermas, refused to answer questions about the bank deposits totaling \$96,921.26 he had made from 1948 through 1952. The Senator himself had accumulated in the same time deposits totaling \$172,623.18, when his salary was \$12,500 a year.

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In elucidating the dynamics of Soviet society under the bureaucracy's rule and in discovering the laws determining this phase of Soviet development, Trotsky undertook a task which does not differ essentially from the task undertaken by Marx and Engels in the middle of the last century with regard to capitalist society.

True enough, Trotsky did not have to discover a wholly new method (the materialist dialectic) as Marx and Engels were obliged to do before pursuing their scientific investigations of capitalism. Their method was available for Trotsky to apply, which is no simple or mechanical feat, as far too many capable, gifted, even original thinkers, notably Mao Tse-tung, obviously assume. This Marxist heritage of method was undeniably an inestimable advantage for Trotsky. But in other respects he was confronted with problems his great teachers did not have to face.

Thus Trotsky labored under a handicap of confronting a social formation, which, unforeseen by any one, appeared for the first time on record, and was radically different from previous social formations. There was little, if anything, either in past historical experience, or in the history of social thought for Trotsky to summon to his assistance. The "finished products of the past" in both these fields provided the scantiest of "raw materials" for him to work upon.

Marx and Engels had at their disposal, on the one hand, the recorded evolution of class antagonisms in capitalist society over a span of more than two centuries; and, on the other, the body of thought incorporated in pre-Marxist economic science, the classic economists, Ricardo's school in particular.

Lenin in his pioneer work on imperialism had the advantage and aid, as he gratefully acknowledged, of prior studies by the English economist J. A. Hobson, who by 1902 had supplied in his book, *Imperialism*, "an excellent and comprehensive description of the principal economic and political characteristics of imperialism"; and the "very valuable theoretical analysis" (except for the error in the theory of money) contained in the 1910 "Work of the Austrian Marxist, Rudolf Hilferding, *Finance Capital*" (Lenin).

STARTED FROM SCRATCH

Trotsky, in contrast, was compelled to start virtually from scratch. In this respect his investigations of Soviet society are unmatched in the history of Marxist thought.

No one else before him studied the processes of social decay on the foundation of new social institutions, new relations of production. No one, in fact, had conceived before of the possibility of a historical variant of this type. Moreover, every key fact, not to mention subordinate details, relating to this decay, including the actual existence of the social agency promoting it, was, as it still is, denied or hidden, distorted or expunged, falsified or suppressed.

It is no exaggeration to say that no other creative thinker was ever obliged to work against such odds, under such difficulties, amid such hardships as Trotsky.

In his introduction to *The Revolution Betrayed*, Trotsky states: "The bookstalls of all civilized countries are now loaded with books about the Soviet Union. It is no wonder; such prodigies are rare. . . The reader, however, would seek in vain on the pages of this literature for a scientific appraisal of what is actually taking place in the land of the October Revolution." Trotsky's works on the Soviet Union are to this day the only systematic studies available covering Soviet developments up to 1940.

Further on in this same introduction, he points out: "The enemies of the Soviet Union are far better informed about it than its real friends, the workers of all countries. In the general staffs of the imperialist governments an accurate account is kept of the pluses and minuses of the Soviet Union, and not only on the basis of public reports." This applies

with an even greater force today than in Trotsky's lifetime.

Trotsky's general conclusion concerning the Soviet Union under Stalinism may be stated as follows: It is a social organism shot through with contradictions of such nature and intensity as to make it impossible for Soviet society to reach, under Stalinist rule, any lasting or stable internal equilibrium. (Extended to the world arena, this same general conclusion applies with equal, if not greater, force. That is to say, lasting external stability between the Soviet Union and the capitalist world — is likewise unattainable, notwithstanding the Kremlin's past and current "peaceful co-existence" campaigns.)

Trotsky's general conclusion, applicable inside as well as outside the USSR, appears to have been invalidated by the 30-year duration of Stalin's regime, by the postwar expansion of Soviet power, the extension of Soviet property forms to East European countries, Mao's victory in China, etc. But this is what Hegel, the greatest of German idealist philosophers, used to call "false appearance." In reality just the contrary is true.

Although processes of social decay differ radically from biological processes, there is an instructive lesson to be gleaned from an analogy with a frail human organism which may survive for years while afflicted with a fatal disease. History, too, affords many examples of gangrenous social organisms, surviving under certain conditions, far beyond their inherent powers. We cite only three: The Austro-Hungarian empire of the 19th century, the Czarist empire, and — most contemporary! — modern capitalism as a whole.

CONTINUAL PAROXYSMS

What is more, in the course of the last 30 years, Stalin's regime suffered one paroxysm after another, staggering from one crisis to the next, at home and abroad alike. It has been, from its inception a regime of crisis par excellence. It remains a regime of crisis.

"To be sure," wrote Trotsky, "the contradictions of Soviet society are deeply different from the contradictions of capitalism. But they are nevertheless very tense. They find their expression in material and cultural inequalities, governmental repressions, political groupings, and the strug-

gle of factions. Police repression hushes up and distorts a political struggle, but does not eliminate it."

Trotsky analyzed a whole series of major contradictions in Soviet life. Suffice it here to deal with the central contradiction of the Soviet Union under Stalinist rule. It is this: On the one pole there exists a privileged minority of bureaucrats, a replica of the past, newly revived under specific conditions, and generally counter-revolutionary; at the opposite pole there exist the new property forms (nationalized industry and land) and new relations of production (planned economy), which this bureaucracy straddles and which it is compelled to defend, in its own way, with its own methods, as the source of its power, privileges and revenues.

This polar antagonism determines the movement of Soviet society, inwardly as well as outwardly. In working out the dialectic of Soviet development, Trotsky fixed the Stalinist bureaucracy as the factor of gangrene, ascribing nothing progressive to its character. The progressive developments of Soviet life, internally as externally, spring, despite and against the bureaucracy, from the opposite pole, from the new social institutions established by the 1917 Revolution.

"Nothing else but the social foundations forced a social revolutionary program upon the Kremlin," Trotsky emphasized in January 1940 in connection with the events then unfolding in Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Poland. (In *Defense of Marxism*, page 181; our emphasis.)

The extent, the degree or intensity with which, at a given time, the one or the other pole of the central contradiction of Soviet life (Bonapartist bureaucracy — Soviet social foundations) manifests itself cannot be determined in advance or a priori. "No one has said that the Soviet bureaucracy always and everywhere either wishes or is able to accomplish the expropriation of the bourgeoisie." (Same page; emphasis in the original). In each particular case, it is necessary to work out the dialectic interaction of all the factors involved: the workers' state, the dynamism of the oppressed masses in a given situation, the Bonapartist bureaucracy, its position vis-a-vis imperialism and vice versa, etc.

"Best Location"

By Jean Blake

Since liberals and reformers are so fond of using the old cliché, "Socialism won't work," we can't resist the temptation, every once in a while, to see just how well their solutions to recognized social problems work.

Their solutions are based on the contention that capitalism can and does work, with a few adjustments and reforms now and then. And they cite as examples of progress cities like Cleveland, "the best location in the nation," with its FEPC ordinance and human relations councils.

Let's take a look at one important aspect of this "best location" — its housing situation. An editorial in the *Cleveland Call & Post* last week summed up the main features as follows: The West Side of the city is "so tightly barred against Negro residence that less than 2% of the whole county colored population lives West of the Cuyahoga River." The Housing Authority "does not dare put Negroes in Federally-aided housing on the West Side for fear of having hate-mongers attack the whole public housing structure."

In addition, there have been numerous attempts — to tie up new building of low-cost housing projects in litigation, petitions and counter-petitions against specific projects, and enactment of special city ordinances — all thinly-veiled moves aimed to bar Negroes from areas of the city consecrated to white supremacy.

Finally, encouraged by the attitude of the respectable, law-abiding bigots, more violent members of the "master race" struck twice in the past month.

On March 13 a mother and two teen-age daughters narrowly escaped death from 2 bullets fired into their home. The reason: the Lowe family had recently put their house up for sale and the realty firm representing them showed the house to several prospective Negro buyers.

The second incident occurred April 2. Cleveland Hill and his wife worked five years to buy a house large enough to unite them with their four children, separated by the housing shortage. They spent all their spare time after work cleaning, repairing and painting the building, getting ready to move in.

Then, on April 2 the vandals struck. The freshly painted house was splattered with red paint and racial epithets.

The Hills are not intimidated, and still plan to move in, hoping they will not be molested further.

These things happen in the year 1953, in a northern city, Cleveland, "the best location in the nation."

All we can say to those who have faith that capitalism can be reformed to eliminate discrimination and segregation is that their methods don't seem to work very well.

And the Door-Key Kids?

By Joyce Cowley

An emergency meeting sponsored by the Day Care Council was held this week in New York to protest possible budget cuts affecting the city's \$3,775,000 contribution to the day-care program. This contribution helps to maintain 110 centers which are for 5,140 children of working mothers.

Dan Carpenter, Director of the Hudson Guild Neighborhood House, where 107 children are cared for, said that a reduction of the allotment would mean closing some centers or curtailing the school-age program under which older children are cared for after school and during school holidays.

In two-thirds of the cases dealt with in the day-care program, mothers are the sole or major support of the family. Mrs. Guggenheimer, Chairman of the Council, said curtailment or elimination of the program would force working mothers to turn their children loose on the streets or put them in foster homes.

"Women and children first" seems to be the motto of every government official who wants to cut expenses by eliminating luxuries like human welfare. It's obvious a day-care program that covers only 5,140 children in a city of 8,000,000 is so inadequate that most of the children of working mothers are loose on the streets right now. Well — our city fathers ask — aren't they getting along all right? What difference is it going to make if we close a few more centers?

They might take a look at another part

of the budget. Combatting juvenile crime is pretty expensive. Costs the government about five times as much as it spends on education. Looking at the matter from a cold-blooded dollar-and-cents point of view, the policy of cutting down on child care seems a bit extravagant.

But I'm not thinking about dollars and cents, I'll leave that to politicians. I'm thinking about the door-key kids. There's no way of estimating how many youngsters are on their own. During the last war, a survey was made of the city block where I lived. They found that over 40 young children — in this block alone — were left without supervision. These are the children who've reached their late teens and are making headlines today — about teen-age drug addicts and teen-agers killed in gang wars.

I'm thinking about the mothers, too — the desperate anxiety they feel when they leave their children alone. But when you're the one who supports the family, what are you going to do?

I hear that 10,000 transport workers are threatening to march on City Hall to protest wage cuts and layoffs (part of the same economy program that includes the "cut" on child care). That's the kind of action I'd like to see the mothers of New York take, to protest the miserable condition of our schools and hopelessly inadequate program for child care. We've got to organize and we've got to make ourselves heard if we want decent care and education for our children.

Notes from the News

WALTER REUTHER told delegates to the recent Auto Workers convention that he would fight hard if there were any attempt made to increase his annual salary above the \$18,000 recommended by the constitution committee.

WASHINGTON OBSERVERS think that the current Congress, which is setting a new record for investigations, may well expend as much as \$10,000,000 on probes. This estimate is based on the amounts already appropriated in the three months since the new session began. Some conservative newspapers are already describing this Congress as "probe-happy" and wondering whether the Congressmen are legislators or detectives.

PAGING SENATOR McCARTHY! Dr. Ira Reid, professor of social science at Haverford College, told the annual conference of the National Association of Collegiate Deans and Registrars that to be good, education must be subversive. If educated people are to assume their social responsibilities, education must be subversive in that it teaches men to turn things over, to re-examine, to dissent, to disagree as they search for solutions to problems and a better way of doing things, the educator said. Dr. Reid may have thought that he was giving a different meaning to the word "subversive" than that usually used, but his definition comes squarely under what McCarthy calls "Communist thinking."

NEGRO HOME BOMBED in Kansas City, Missouri. This is the third bombing in the same block in less than a year. The occupants were not injured, but considerable damage was done to the house. The owner declared: "It will take more than a bombing to scare me out. The only way I will leave here is to be taken out feet first."

STALINISTS BAN MARX. On March 14, which was the seventieth anniversary of the death of Karl Marx, the founder of scientific socialism, the Stalinist Central Committee in East Germany banned his most important work, *Capital*. The unwitting Stalinist tribute to Marx ordered that *Capital* be banned from reading rooms of all public libraries, the book to be available only to persons showing a special "urgency permit" from schools, universities and similar institutions. The same measure applies to the sale of *Capital* in bookstores. The reason given by the

Central Committee is significant: "This is to prevent ideological errors and misunderstandings that might be provoked by incompetent comparisons between the theses of the great teacher Stalin about economic problems of Socialism and (Marx's) *Capital*."

STATE OF WORLD was described to reporters by Dr. Joseph E. Johnson, president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "What really perturbed me most is the seriousness of the revolutions in Asia and Africa," he said. Dr. Johnson didn't think — with the exception of Iran — that the Arab states would go Communist, but he warned that they might go "chaotic." He also deplored the fact that many Asians seemingly had forgotten how the Korean war started and now look upon it as a white man's invasion.

CAPITALIST ECONOMICS. Butter is selling in stores at around 95 cents a pound. Many people cannot afford it and buy oleomargarine which sells around 41 cents a pound. Today the U.S. government owns over 150 million pounds of butter; it is buying it at an average rate now of 2 million pounds a day. The government stores its butter hoard in caves and cold-storage warehouses throughout the country for which it pays high rentals. Government officials claim that there has been little spoilage of the butter so far but admit that some butter has been stored so long that it will enter the spoilage danger zone very soon. At the same time the butter-fat content of milk has been reduced so that the milk you buy today has 10 to 20 per cent less butter-fat than in pre-war days. Why is this done? So that more butter can be made for the government to buy and store in caves or warehouses.

BOOK BANNING received a set-back in Trenton, N. J., where a judge ruled illegal the action of the county prosecutor in banning allegedly "objectionable" books listed by self-appointed censors.

DREW PEARSON, for 20 years a radio news commentator, has been dropped by the American Broadcasting system, despite the fact that he had the second highest listener rating of any radio newsman. Tremendous pressure from reactionary forces, spearheaded by Sen. McCarthy, has for some time been brought to bear on sponsors and radio networks to drop Pearson because of his slight liberalism.

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NEVER HAD IT SO GOOD, BRASS HAT CONFESSES

"There is a slightly bald, middle-aged colonel in Tokyo who is a great favorite with civilians. They say he is the only honest military man they ever knew." These attention-provoking sentences begin a news report that has the genuine ring of truth. It is by Ernie Hill of the *Chicago Daily News*.

"Folks," the unnamed colonel says, "I never had it so good. I spent 10 years in the Army back in the United States and I could kick myself."

Why should a dignified colonel take such an undignified action? "I didn't know what I was missing. But, boy, I've found out now. The Army'll never get me back to the United States until I'm ready to retire."

The colonel isn't talking about the mud and snow and filth and hardships and sudden death faced by the troops in Korea. He's talking about the life of the brass in Tokyo. "Here I got a 12-room house, four servants, an Army car, a chauffeur and membership in some of the fanciest officers' clubs in the world."

"I play golf three afternoons a week. I don't do enough work to

earn a corporal's pay and I still work harder than most."

In the homes of civilians who like to invite him over, the colonel says: "You poor dopes. You pay 200 to 300 percent more for all the food you buy in the stores."

"But, boy, you can't beat these commissaries — choice beef is cheap, cigarettes \$1.20 a carton, bourbon \$1 a fifth."

"If I'd known about this overseas gravy train 15 years ago, I'd be wealthy today."

"I was just stupid all those years. But now I see scores of young men around me who have caught on quicker than I did."

"Can you quote me? Don't say such a thing. If the Army saw my name on this, I'd be back in the United States in one week."

"And, man, would that be bad? My wife would shoot me dead. I'd shoot myself. Good heavens, man, it's my turn to get my nose in the trough. Let me lap this up in peace."

Chief Snooper

Rep. Velde, whose ouster as head of House Un-American committee is demanded in House resolution, got into hot water when he proposed investigation of churches.

Peace Moves Stir Hope, Youngstown Speaker Declares

APRIL 4 — In a talk here last night at the Youngstown Forum, 234 East Federal Street, Lou Cooper, Akron Militant Correspondent, pointed out that the New China proposals for repatriation of prisoners of war in Korea had aroused wide hopes for peace in the American public. "Given an unexpected opportunity, the American people show that their concern is with peace with the world, rather than war to the death with the so-called 'communist' enemy."

"All the polls have indicated that the majority of the American people are opposed to the war in Korea. It is therefore no surprise to us that they show genuine respect and sympathy for the peace proposals of New China, in spite of the fact that the revolutionary government has been maligned and slandered continuously in the press."

"The Socialist Workers Party, which has been the only political group calling for withdrawal of U.S. troops from Korea from the war's inception, expresses the views of those wide layers whose hearts and minds have resisted the terrible war spell fostered by the Truman and Eisenhower administrations."

The speaker further pointed out that the widespread resentment against McCarthyism was "not only indicative of the desire to defend freedom of expression in America. It is also a channel utilized by the American people to show their distaste for the propaganda for war, which pivots its pitch around the so-called internal 'communist' menace."

A lively discussion was followed by a social evening.

AMA-Legion Deal Killed U.S. Health Plan

A deal to defeat a bill for a national health insurance program in 1949 was made by the American Legion and the American Medical Association, it was charged in a copyrighted story by The Louisville Times on April 8.

The medical monopoly ended its opposition to expansion of the veterans' hospitalization program in return for an agreement by the Legion's leaders to oppose the health plan proposed by the Truman administration.

The newspaper quoted A. E. Hardgrove, former chairman of the American Hospital Association's committee on veterans' hospitals, as authority for the charge of a deal to deny the American people the benefits of even the limited program proposed by Truman. He said:

"The AMA was worried about the Truman plan and felt that they had to have the Legion's support to beat it. They made a deal, and so the AMA withheld its criticism of the Veterans Administration."

Another step in the government's campaign against the Marine Cooks and Stewards union was taken when Hugh Bryson, president of the independent West Coast maritime union, was indicted on a perjury charge based on his signing of the Taft-Hartley non-Communist affidavit.

INSURANCE COMPANIES CHEAT FEDERAL GOV'T IN VET CASES

Many of the biggest insurance companies in the nation are squeezing millions of dollars out of the federal government annually by refusing to pay medical bills submitted by Veterans Administration hospitals, the Louisville Times revealed recently in a copyrighted story.

Hiding behind the excuse that they don't have to pay legally valid claims because the veteran pays nothing, insurance companies refuse to pay bills sent to them by the hospitals that treat veteran patients. Benefitting from this indirect government subsidy are some of the biggest insurance companies, such as Prudential, Metropolitan, John Hancock, etc. In addition, large corporations such as DuPont, Ford, General

Motors, International Harvester and others that have health plans also benefit.

In 1952 the Veterans Administration had close to \$4 million in unpaid bills. The amounts involved are probably much larger, since the VA has ceased to send bills to many of the companies since it has not been collecting.

For undisclosed reasons, the Veterans Administration has instructed its attorneys to take no legal action toward collecting these large claims.

Letters from Readers**Why Youths Turn To Use of Heroin**

Editor:

An article in the March 4 *Chicago Herald-American* again drove home the point concerning the Korean war which The Militant labels "the most unpopular war in U.S. history." The article reveals that it has become a rather widespread tactic for young men of draft age to resort to the use of narcotics to avoid induction into military service.

Lt. Joseph Healy, head of the police narcotics detail, has between 50 and 60 confessions in his files of teen-agers who started to use heroin to keep out of the army. He says: "They told me they knew the army would throw them out if they used dope. And most of them had become confirmed addicts as a result." The confessions were obtained through arrest for other crimes such as theft, larceny, rape, etc. Many of them stole to obtain money for narcotics.

Robt. W. Ardis, District Supervisor of the Narcotics Bureau, told the *Herald-American*: "About one draftee out of every 10,000 is found to be an addict. The same ratio, we feel, holds true all over the nation."

This indeed is a sad commentary on the flower of our manhood today. But what have our young people to look forward to under the present system of capitalism? No wonder juvenile delinquency and all that goes with it are so rampant. All the creativeness and enthusiasm of the youth of America is stifled by the present war economy.

Helen Burns
Chicago**A Radio Program That Attracted Plenty of Sponsors**

Editor:

Many radio programs have gone off the air for lack of sponsors, who are now interested in TV. However, one program in Baltimore does not suffer from this. Sponsored by a baking company, it has attracted a whole crew of others, including Cadillac-Oldsmobile, Sears Roebuck, Gunther Brewing, Curtis Bay Towing, Schenit Rubber, DeSoto Dealers and Greber Brothers.

The program features one Matthew Svetic, a stoop-pigeon for the FBI in witch-hunting alleged members of the Communist Party. Perhaps this explains why these companies like to appear as sponsors. But I don't like it at all. The program makes a reactionary appeal to the emotions

that can cause the worst kind of trouble.

D. Baltimore

Suggests Another Page for Letters To 'The Militant'

Editor:

Nick Longworth said some years ago that he wanted to have a Republican party strong enough to take good care of itself, and also a Democrat party strong enough but not too strong. That is the way they figured for years to hold the government in their hands. But now they have to have war, as long as they can get somebody else to fight it.

I am told we should vote for the lesser evil but I have not the brains to find the lesser evil between the two old parties.

You have not printed any of my letters for so long and then cut them so short I feel like a big bull under a small shed. I think we ought to have one more page in between the other four pages and invite all the members and subscribers to get busy. We want to hear what they think and know.

L. R. Courts
Sharonville, Ohio**One Tax Proposal That Sounds Good**

Editor:

Conservative columnist I ne z Robb sees "the advisability of a really confiscatory inheritance tax. From shirt sleeves to shirt sleeves in three generations isn't fast enough in the case of a Jelke. Strip 'em in each generation and let the young punks roll up their sleeves and earn their own livings by the sweat of their brows. Or let 'em starve."

She will be "happy to tell the government what to do with the funds accruing from that confiscatory inheritance tax. Let's spend it on more education and job opportunities for the innumerable young men and women in this nation who toil and sweat in any honest vineyard for the opportunities that Jelke and his kind contemptuously kick away."

When the workers of Russia abolished the right of inheritance, the capitalist papers were appropriately outraged. Yet here's a case of a columnist who has to pay lip service to this very revolutionary idea.

Says Robb: "God knows it is a crime for such monies to be inherited by young bums whose public extravagances and extralegal escapades can only make for Communist propaganda."

L. A. Stalinists Aid Republican Mayor Bowron

LOS ANGELES, April 6 — Myra Tanner Weiss, the Socialist Workers Party anti-war candidate for Mayor in tomorrow's election, yesterday charged in a public statement to the press that the Communist Party here has committed a "betrayal of the interests of the working class" by lending support to the candidacy of pro-war and anti-labor Mayor Bowron.

While the Stalinists have not formally endorsed Republican Bowron, Mrs. Weiss explained, they have urged the election of "labor-endorsed candidates," which clearly refers to Bowron whose administration has been endorsed by CIO and AFL officials here.

If the Stalinists were acting in the interests of the workers, Mrs. Weiss pointed out, they would have endorsed her and her running-mate, Robert E. Morgan, who is campaigning for Board of Education member, as the only candidates opposed to the Korean war and the witch hunt and favoring a labor party and a workers government. Mrs. Weiss's statement, a large part of which appeared in today's *Los Angeles Times*, is as follows:

SOCIALISM THE ISSUE

"The Communist Party of Los Angeles County has issued a platform in this election campaign which in effect calls upon the workers of Los Angeles to once more vote for Mayor Bowron. As a candidate of the Socialist Workers Party, running on a program of opposition to the Korean war and the witch hunt, for a labor party and a workers government, I consider this stand of the Communist Party as a betrayal of the interests of the working class."

"In this platform the Communist Party says: 'The issue today is not Socialism or capitalism.' This is utterly false. It is precisely the struggle between socialism and capitalism which

has hurled the world into a deeper and deeper crisis. The capitalist solution to this crisis is militarism, inflation and police dictatorship. The working-class socialist solution is a world-wide socialist reconstruction with an end to imperialist wars and reaction."

"In Los Angeles this basic and overriding issue is posed as a choice between my candidacy for Mayor and the four capitalist candidates."

WHICH SIDE IS CP ON?

"Which side is the Communist Party on in this already drawn issue? Where do they stand? Not with socialism, but with the Republican incumbent."

"They say: 'The Communist Party endorses no candidates in the April 7 election.' This in itself would be a treacherous stand in view of their obligation to support the only working-class candidate. But in the next breath they add: 'We do say . . . the election of labor-endorsed candidates who are on the April 7 ballot, would constitute convincing demonstration that Americans want a halt to hysteria.'"

"The election of labor-endorsed candidates includes Mayor Bowron, since AFL and CIO officials, instead of following an independent working-class political line in this campaign, have come out in support of the Bowron administration."

THE STALINIST RECORD

"In 1945 and 1949 I ran against Mayor Bowron on a socialist platform. In 1945 the Communist Party accused me of splitting the vote and endangering Bowron's election. They demanded that 'the FBI and the United States District Attorney should act at once' against my party for its opposition to the second imperialist world war."

"They have since become the victims of the same persecution they incited against us. We defend the civil rights of the Communist Party just as we defend the civil rights of every victim of the witch hunt. However, this in no way constitutes the support of the treacherous policies of the Stalinists."

"By supporting Bowron, the Communist Party invites progressive workers to vote for the war, the witch hunt, police brutality, strike-breaking, Jim Crow, and all the other evils of capitalism. This double-talk and political dishonesty, must be condemned by all honest and sincere elements in the working-class movement."

"It will make little difference to the working class and the minorities which of the capitalist candidates is elected, but every vote for the working-class socialist candidate is a vote for the independent interests and aspirations of labor. Socialism is the issue in this election and no one can ignore it."

U.S. casualties in the Korean "police action" increased 1,039 last week. This brings the U.S. casualty total to 132,967, of which 23,577 are dead, 96,519 wounded and 9,156 missing in action.

TWIN CITIES Sunday Afternoon Socialist Forum Why Wishart Deserted the CIO

Speaker: V. R. Dunne
Sun., April 19, 3:30 P.M.
10 So. 4th Street
Minneapolis
Questions, Discussion Refreshments Admission Free

CHICAGO**May Day Meeting**

Speaker: Frederick J. Lang
Veteran trade unionist, author of *Maritime*
Saturday, May 2, 8 P.M.
Enjoy an international smorgasbord at 5 P.M. Donation of \$1.25 covers all you can eat
Socialist Workers Party
734 So. Wabash

Newark Fri. Night Socialist Forum

presents a talk on
The Situation in Israel On Its Fifth Birthday
Speaker: Lewis Scott
Fri., April 17, 8:30 P.M.
at 52 Market Street