

# Eisenhower, Taft Split Over Korea Cease-Fire Talks

By Joseph Hansen

The exact status of the negotiations for a truce in Korea are hidden at present behind a veil of secrecy. What concessions have been made by the two sides, what points

of difference remain, how important the differences are, who is to blame for the latest stalling — all the facts about these issues involving the possibility of an armistice or the resumption of full-scale fighting remain unknown. The doors have been closed to public view at Panmunjom in direct violation of the right of the peoples of the world to know the truth and to see for themselves what answers the representatives of the contending powers propose on questions involving the immediate fate of millions of human beings.

The only revelations about the new secret offer made by the Eisenhower administration have come from the highly unreliable Syngman Rhee dictatorship. In this case there may be some truth to Rhee's reports since he is violently opposed to Eisenhower's proposals. He says they involve "concessions" to the North Korean and Chinese negotiators. According to Henry S. Hayward, Chief Far Eastern Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor, Rhee's "dissatisfaction is at least partly due to belief that the Communists will accept the new truce overtures." (May 27). The South Koreans, he continues, "may have reason to believe that success is

imminent and consequently feel it is time to register complaints as emphatically as possible."

Rhee's threats to continue fighting and explode any truce that might be reached were squelched by a missile to the dictator from Eisenhower, again secret, which probably involved promises of some kind of pay-off to the blood-thirsty little puppet.

More serious than Rhee's frothing at the mouth were the objections voiced by Senator Robert A. Taft. The head of the Republican power machine in Congress said May 26 that if a truce was not secured — on the arbitrary, one-sided terms thus far advanced publicly by Eisenhower — then the U.S. "might as well forget the United Nations as far as the Korean war is concerned."

In Taft's opinion "England and our other allies" should be told "that we are withdrawing from all further peace negotiations in Korea." He added: "I believe we might as well abandon any idea of working with the United Nations in the East, and reserve to ourselves a completely free hand."

These views express the line advocated by the "Pacific First" wing of the American capitalist class. They want extension of the

(Continued on page 2)

## SWP Leadership Plans Program of Activities

A rounded program of activities to guide its local branches was adopted by the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party at its plenary session May 21-24.

The program dealt with the type of work to be carried on in the trade unions with special attention given to the poorer-paid, less privileged and more combative workers. It included directives for activities in behalf of the colored people and their organizations, the youth, students and women.

It outlined the record and policy of the party in the fight for civil rights and in defense of all victims of reactionary repression. The program envisages the formation of a Labor Party by the unions as the central need of the American workers in fighting war, McCarthyism and the threat of a depression. It recommends running Socialist candidates for office wherever feasible.

All these tasks are designed to promote the aim of building an independent party of revolutionary Socialists firmly rooted in the main section of the organized working class of the United States.

An \$18,000 fund campaign is to be launched June 15 for party-building purposes and to facilitate the realization of this program of action. Plans were made for celebrating next fall the 25th anniversary of the Socialist Workers Party which traces its origin to the expulsion of the initial Trotskyist group from the

Communist Party on October 27, 1928.

The meeting of the National Committee was preceded by a hard-fought and thoroughgoing discussion throughout the party on a number of political and organizational questions. Debate upon the internal situation occupied the greater part of the plenum. Majority and minority positions were presented on the major political developments since Eisenhower's election and the tasks of the party and on American Stalinism and the correct tactical approach to it.

Following three days of intense debate, a solution of the party situation satisfactory to both sides was reached. The minority agreed to recognize the authority of the National Committee plenum, abide by its decisions, and carry them out loyally in accord with the principle of democratic centralism. The majority agreed to preserve and protect the democratic rights of the minority and to ensure its full integration in the work of the party on all levels. Both factions agreed to concentrate for the coming period upon the practical tasks of building and strengthening the party while objective discussion on all disputed matters proceeds in a regulated manner.

(Continued on page 3)

## McCarthy Linked to Catholic Hierarchy

By Joseph Keller

Senator Joseph McCarthy, whose methods remind us of the Spanish Inquisition, is getting more and more open backing from the powerful and authoritarian Catholic hierarchy. For instance, public praise of McCarthy was spoken on May 31 by the Rev. Edward Lodge Curran, president of the International Catholic Truth Society and pastor of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Brooklyn.

Addressing a communion breakfast of 1,800 firemen, the prominent priest boasted that "out in the forefront of those ferreting out communism is that great American, great Marine and great Catholic, Senator Joe McCarthy." He claimed that McCarthy, who is detested even by many Eisenhower Republicans, is a "controversial figure only in the minds of Communists and fellow travelers that he has on the run." The Rev. Curran urged his audience to "stop the smear campaign against Joe McCarthy."

This alleged "smear" campaign includes the damning revelations of the Senate Subcommittee on Privileges and Elections about McCarthy's shady financial transactions. One of the matters probed was the mysterious source of the \$172,623 McCarthy deposited in secret bank accounts from 1948 through 1952 and the addi-

tional sum of \$96,921 banked by the senator's administrative assistant Ray Kiermas.

"GO IT ALONE"

The Rev. Curran's defense of the fascist-like McCarthy was significantly combined with a pronouncement on Far Eastern policy. He urged the U.S. to "go it alone" in Korea if the truce moves fail in Korea and the UN allies of the U.S. decide to pull out. This is along the lines of McCarthy's own provocative proposals for spreading the war in the Far East, even to bombing ships of all countries carrying goods to China.

McCarthy's great initial publicity arose out of his smear campaign against Prof. Owen Lattimore in 1949 and 1950. Lattimore, a Far Eastern expert, was an adviser to the State Department under the Truman administration. The Senator's key witness against Lattimore was Louis Budenz, who deserted the Communist Party in 1945 to rejoin the Catholic Church and secure a well-paying job as a "professor" at Fordham University, a leading Catholic institution.

When Senator Dennis Chavez of New Mexico, himself a Roman Catholic, denounced Budenz in 1950 as a liar, paid informer, bigamist and self-confessed participant in the GPU preparations to murder Leon Trotsky, the Very Rev. Laurence J. McGinley, presi-



SEN. MCCARTHY

dent of Fordham University, publicly defended McCarthy's odious witness "as a teacher and as a Christian gentleman" and assailed Chavez's statement as "even lower than that reached in the columns of the Daily Worker."

SOURCE OF MATERIAL

The material McCarthy and Budenz used to smear Lattimore had been initially published in China Monthly, published by the American China Policy Association, in which Catholics appeared to be most closely interested. The ACPA president was Mrs. Clare

Booth Luce, prominent Catholic convert now ambassador to Italy and wife of the Time, Life and Fortune publishing tycoon. Another source of McCarthy's material was William J. Goodwin, registered lobbyist and agent for Chiang Kai-shek. Goodwin was once active in the fascist Christian Front organization of Father Coughlin.

Budenz had introduced as the "first corroborative documents" for his testimony against Lattimore an article by Father James F. Kearney, in the December 1948 issue of Columbia, published by the Knights of Columbus. This article by a leading Jesuit was a bitter denunciation of the U.S. State Department for refusing to support intervention in China to aid the disintegrating Chiang Kai-shek dictatorship. It contains the first published attack on Lattimore.

HIERARCHY'S HOLDINGS

The Rev. Kearney indicated that the American Catholic hierarchy's rabid campaign for U.S. military intervention in China is based on vital material interests. He wrote that the Chinese missions of the Vatican face "ruin." The Catholic hierarchy has vast land holdings and investments in the Far East — including India, China and the Philippines — which it might lose if the colonial revolts continue to spread.

The Catholic hierarchy has long been seeking a national political figure through which it can extend Catholic power in America. In the years of the depression it had Father Coughlin. It would be in keeping with the hierarchy's aims to get behind McCarthy. He has become the spearhead of the political witch hunt in America. Through him the Catholic hierarchy can attempt to discredit and victimize the Protestant clergy and others who stand in the way of Catholic advances.

It is this latter fact which Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam undoubtedly had in mind when he denounced the recent attacks on the loyalty of President Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill of the Protestant Episcopal Church and former president of the National Council of Churches.

"Strange, is it not," observed Bishop Oxnam, "that the great Protestant leaders of this nation are under such vicious attack?"

U.S. Casualties Rise To 135,362 Total

A new total of 135,362 United States battle casualties in Korea was announced on June 3, an increase of 199 over the previous week's report. This does not reflect the recent heavier fighting when losses rose sharply.

Workers of the World, Unite!

# THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XVII - No. 23

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, JUNE 8, 1953

PRICE: 10 CENTS

## Demand Witch-Burners Halt Legal Murder of Rosenbergs

Stop This Political Witch-Burning



## WOMAN LEADER, METHODIST BISHOP DECRY RED-BAITING SMEAR ATTACKS

McCarthyism and its threat to all but the most openly reactionary elements in America is arousing the fears and protests of even prominent Republicans. Mrs. Dwight F. Davis, a leading woman Republican, has been inspired to denunciation of the political witch hunt by the case of Mrs. Mildred McAfee Horton, wartime commander of the Waves and former president of Wellesley College, whose appointment to a UN assignment was blocked for undisclosed "security" reasons.

Mrs. Davis, wealthy widow of the late Davis Cup donor, is a former President of the Women's National Republican Club and a former member of the Republican National Committee. In an exclusive interview in the May 31 N. Y. Herald-Tribune, she re-

vealed herself as "one of the angriest women in the United States" because of the current witch hunt against everyone to the left of Senator Joseph McCarthy, J. Edgar Hoover and the Gestapo-FBI.

Her anger is directed particularly at the smear of Mrs. Horton, whose nomination as U.S. delegate to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission was held up for "security" reasons, "in the ugly current phrase," as Mrs. Davis described it. The FBI snipers had made a report on her. Afterwards, stories about her "unreliability" appeared in the press. She had denounced the House Un-American Activities Committee's demand in 1949 to examine Wellesley's social science textbooks.

"What has happened to America and where does this trend lead, which makes it possible for such a citizen as Mrs. Horton to be regarded as a poor security risk?" asked Mrs. Davis. "There is only one answer. A sickness has gripped this country — a sickness of fear, of mutual suspicion, of unhealthy credulity. Only a sick nation is willing to believe the worst of its best. Only a sick nation remains complacent while its government practices condemnation by poison-pen letter and pins the label of bad security on honorable independence of spirit."

"We do not gain security for this nation by challenging a Mrs. Horton. And we lose, meanwhile, what is most precious in the

(Continued on Page 2)

## Electrocution of Couple Designed To Terrorize Freedom of Thought

By Harry Frankel

Political assassination under cover of "legal" mumbo-jumbo came closer to the Rosenbergs this week as last-minute moves by defense counsel failed to slow down the witch hunters' death drive. Thursday, June 18, is the date set for execution of the courageous couple, and world-wide protest has failed to secure a stay despite the fact that important new evidence indicates that government witnesses, upon whose testimony the hysterical death-sentence was obtained, had perjured themselves.

## Labor Must Fight This Injustice

An Editorial

A terrible and irreversible injustice may soon take place in the Rosenberg case. Representatives of all sectors of the nation have rallied to the defense of the Rosenbergs, but labor has not yet been heard from. And the labor movement is the only power strong enough to stay the hand of the executioner.

The official leaders of the trade unions of America may feel that labor has no stake in this case. They may argue that only those who are sympathetic to "communism" or to the Soviet Union need be concerned about the fate of the Rosenbergs. They are wrong.

There is a very strong doubt that justice has been done in the case; strong enough to make the union leaders pause before dismissing it. Furthermore, the case is connected very closely with the McCarthyite method of trial by fury, in an atmosphere of hysteria.

If, in such a case, one which involves the first peacetime use of the death penalty for alleged "espionage," a miscarriage of justice were to occur, this would be an enormous leap forward for McCarthyism.

By the same token, it would be a blow against the labor movement — a setback for labor in its impending fight to defeat American fascism.

Labor must recall the fact that Sacco and Vanzetti were adjudged innocent years after their execution by Felix Frankfurter, who now sits on the Supreme Court which refused to give the Rosenbergs a chance to present new evidence. Labor must recall that Tom Mooney, also sentenced to death in a hysterical atmosphere, was saved by the protest of labor and also later found to be innocent.

Time is short! Labor must act at once. The top leadership of the AFL, the CIO and the independent unions have a clear duty to appeal for a stay of execution and for a new trial. If they fail in this duty, they may help the witch hunters to strike one of the greatest possible blows against labor.

Throughout the world, delegations asking commutation of the death sentence are constantly visiting U.S. embassies. The Women's International Democratic Federation, on the eve of the World Congress of Women opening in Copenhagen on June 5, wired President Eisenhower a demand for clemency and that all new evidence be considered. The Federation represents 135 million women in 65 countries.

MASS RALLIES

In this country, the Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case announced a nationwide series of actions including a National Clemency Train to Washington on Sunday, June 14, outdoor meetings and floats in the nation's principal cities, and a mass meeting in Union Square, N. Y., on Thursday, June 11. Militant readers have indicated that they will participate in the demonstrations in an effort to make them as large and forceful as possible.

The biggest new development in the case is that a handwritten document by David Greenglass, on whose unsupported testimony the Rosenbergs were convicted of "espionage," has been uncovered. This document, from the files of Greenglass' own attorney, O. John Rogge, shows that Greenglass substantially changed his testimony in the ten months preceding the trial in March 1951.

"TRIAL" HYSTERIA

The trial itself was held in an atmosphere of hysteria in which the Rosenbergs could not possibly have been given a fair trial. Further, Judge Kaufman who presided gave unmistakable evidence of prejudice. Among other things, he called the Rosenbergs "traitors" when they were not on trial for treason. The government dared not risk a trial for treason since, under the Constitution, this requires the testimony of two witnesses to an overt act, and the government had only the word of stool-pigeon Greenglass, whose testimony is furthermore unreliable since he personally stood to gain from it.

Further, the fantastic allegations in the trial that the Rosenbergs "gave" the atom bomb "secret" away has been exploded by top atomic scientists Urey, Condon, Lipp and Eistein. When the trial opened, the government promised to take three months to present its case, and offered to call 118 witnesses including top atomic scientists. In fact the government took 8 1/2 days to present a vague, weak and self-contradictory case; did not call a single atom scientist. Many physicists whom the government

(Continued on page 4)

## HEED THESE VOICES!

The following are some of the outstanding voices representing the growing protest of millions in America and throughout the world against the barbaric death sentence of the Rosenbergs:

Dr. Harold C. Urey, world-famous atomic physicist and Nobel prize winner declared, "Accepting the verdict as correct, I am outraged by the unequal punishment which has been given." The Rosenbergs "were convicted on testimony which I do not believe is conclusive beyond a reasonable doubt. . . . I believe the Rosenbergs are or have been Communists or sympathetic to Communist ideas. I regard such people as unreliable generally, but I do not believe in punishing people unless they commit crimes."

The renowned scientist, Albert Einstein, in a letter to the President stated: "My conscience compels me to urge you to commute the death sentence of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg. This appeal to you is prompted by the same reasons which were set forth so convincingly by my distinguished colleague, Harold C. Urey. . . ."

Dr. Edward U. Condon, another leading scientist, punctured a chief prosecution point, Greenglass' story of a "freelance drawing" of a "lens." He said: "The essence of the lens lies in the precise shape which Greenglass did not know and could not have transmitted by a freehand sketch in any case."

Arthur Garfield Hays, general

counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, wrote: "So far as I know, there is no precedent for a death penalty in a case like this. . . . It is the damnable death penalty that causes the uneasiness. . . . If this judgment is carried through, we shall make martyrs of the Rosenbergs, perhaps not to many people in the United States, but to millions in other parts of the world. . . ."

In a clemency letter, Chief Justice Wolf of the Supreme Court of the state of Utah declared: "From the standpoint of justice, I think the conviction rests on too shaky a foundation. . . . This conviction was obtained during a period of mounting hysteria by evidence of witnesses whom the law considers unreliable because of the very hope of reward or mitigation. . . ."

Some 2,300 clergymen in a petition to Eisenhower said: ". . . the death sentence is an indication of our national weakness rather than our national strength. It is a reflection of our growing hysteria, fear and insecurity. . . . It further reduces the range of our freedom to think and act. It contributes to a paralysis of critical thought. It furthers the mood of suppression that becomes increasingly characteristic of our way of life."

## 4th Int'l Pleads For Doomed Pair

The executive committee of the Fourth International has made public the text of a telegram sent to President Eisenhower on May 27 branding the impending execution of the Rosenbergs as a "preparatory act for World War III." The wire, dispatched from Paris by Pierre Frank, follows:

"President Eisenhower, Washington: We protest the projected execution of the Rosenberg couple which we consider a preparatory act for counter-revolutionary third world war. We demand clemency.

"Executive Committee, Fourth International"



# Eisenhower, Taft Split Over Korea Cease-Fire Talks

(Continued from page 1)

war in Korea. They insist on a major conflict with China in order to smash the Mao government, return dictator Chiang Kai-shek to power and restore imperialist domination over the Chinese people. The belligerent, war-now statements of the MacArthur, McCarthys and Knowlands voice the sentiments of these profit-hungry, colonial-minded capitalists.

It is this wing of the Republican party that has been of primary concern to the State Department. Dulles' diplomacy has been designed to meet their pressure even more than that of the European capitalist powers, who are anxious for a slower pace toward another world war and highly concerned about achieving a more peaceful appearing posture before the masses of the world.

Taft's declaration thus put the gun to Eisenhower's head, forcing him to reveal the rift within Republican ranks over making a truce and shifting the emphasis of war preparations from the Pacific to the Atlantic.

On May 28 the President declared that a "go-it-alone" policy was excluded from the foreign-policy planning of his administration. This was taken by the press to indicate a sharp break with Taft's views.

The authoritative N. Y. Times, which expresses the opinion of the dominant section of the capitalist class, tore into Taft editorially May 28, calling him a "confusing man." Taft's speech, it said, "is essentially a defense of isolationism in a world where isolationism is impossible." Taft "is striking at the heart of United States policy." That policy comprehends "global defense with free allies and access to their productive capacity, manpower and raw materials."

Joseph C. Harsch of The

Christian Science Monitor, who has frequently proved reliable in reporting views of the State Department that do not jibe with their publicity hand-outs, indicates that the White House is even considering "an eventual accommodation with Communist China" if a truce goes through. "Recognition and admission to the United Nations lie clearly down that road."

This of course may only be a carrot proffered the Mao regime to induce them to concede to Eisenhower's arbitrary terms for a Korean truce. Actual recognition of the New China might then be indefinitely delayed.

Eisenhower's maneuvers — even the small concessions he may be prepared to give — should not be taken as indicating he is trying to achieve peace. His real aims are just the contrary. Like Truman, he is organizing America and the largest coalition of powers the world has seen for but one purpose — a new world war. The projected victims include the Soviet bloc countries, the colonial areas and revolutionary movements of the workers wherever they may occur.

But the preparations for this frightful conflict require a different course in the field of diplomacy from that followed by Truman — perhaps even some partial retreats. For in order to lead his giant coalition into war in the most effective way, Eisenhower must don the deceptive appearance of a peace-lover. That is one reason why he cannot afford to adopt Taft's views on foreign policy and must make a public break with the Ohio senator.

In the final analysis, Eisenhower has no fundamental differences with the "Pacific First" crowd. That is why the N. Y. Times could say editorially May 31 that Eisenhower "still looks on Senator Taft as his friend and in many ways supporter."

# Woman Leader, Methodist Bishop Decry Smear Attacks

(Continued from page 1)

American tradition. A watchdog body is required to raise the alarm when there are other cases like that of Mrs. Horton. An energetic organization is needed to take the part of other victims of the same brand of snide attack — and especially of the humbler people who have nowhere to turn when agents of their own government unjustly decide to destroy them. I stand ready to join with other right-thinking citizens, if such an organization is formed."

There are indeed many "humbler people" who have been victimized for years by the witch hunt, which was launched officially in 1947 by Truman through his "loyalty" purge order affecting two million government employees. The outstanding victim of this order has been the legless World War II veteran James Kutecher, who has been conducting an unrelenting four-year fight, supported by hundreds of labor and liberal groups, to get restored to his job as clerk with the Veterans Administration.

Mrs. Davis's appeal for organized opposition to the witch hunt should help arouse unified action on the part of the labor movement and civil liberties groups, as well as all other organizations concerned with the preservation of the Bill of Rights.

## OXNAM'S DENUNCIATION

Another significant voice of opposition to the campaign to intimidate, smear and silence even the most mildly liberal people is that of Methodist Bishop G. Broniey Oxnam, long an outspoken defender of liberal values and institutions in America. On May 28 he issued his sharpest criticism yet against the witch hunt, singling out for special attack the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Addressing some 250 Protestant ministers at a conference of the Washington Ministerial Union

and Ministerial Alliance, the Bishop charged that the House witch-hunt committee had not only rejected recommendations to reform its procedure to protect the rights of witnesses before it, but had tried to make it more difficult for an accused individual to answer charges against him by denying him access to the files.

The committee makes the practice of preparing unverified files which contain loose and unsubstantiated imputations of "subversive" activities against individuals. These files, to which the accused are denied access, are then used as the source of information leaked out to smear anyone or destroy.

## ATTACKS HOUSE GROUP

"These files are released to the members of Congress and through them to the press and other groups," said Bishop Oxnam, with reference to attacks on liberal Protestant clergymen. "But the individual himself is never interviewed, his writings and speeches never studied, and he himself never heard."

"Falsehoods can be and are filed — some of them planted there by renegade clergymen — but no opportunity is given the citizen to correct the falsehood by filing the truth." Turning to the issue of the general assault on civil liberties in America, Bishop Oxnam declared:

"The nation is full of fear. The land that has never had a Gestapo nor a Cheka secret police squad is witnessing the growth of the number of 'investigators' of private profiteering organizations with their lists of 'subversives' for sale, and men who ought to know better order dismissal of all 'controversial persons,' unaware that to appease these contemporary brothers of Stalin and of Hitler is a prelude to the day when the demagogue takes over and all liberty passes."

# White Terror Against Africans Denounced by British Socialists

(The following article, reprinted from the Socialist Outlook, a weekly paper published in London, is of unusual interest not only for the facts it reports about the civil strife in Kenya but for the exemplary position which it indicates the revolutionary socialists in Great Britain have taken toward the efforts of the British capitalist class and its government to repress the people of Kenya. Ed.)

"The magistrate sat on the raised school dais and at his side was a Sten gunner." (News Chronicle reporter at Kenyatta's trial.)

After the trial the magistrate was "smuggled out of Kenya like a conspirator." (Observer.)

The trial and conviction of Jomo Kenyatta the acknowledged leader of three million Kikuyu people has nothing to do with justice or even with the maintenance of "law and order." The small minority of white settlers are determined to wipe out every form of independent political organization of the African people.

Kenyatta was, and is, the leading political figure among Africans today. His sentence of seven years imprisonment and possible deportation for life to the deserts of Northern Kenya will make him a symbol of African resistance.

What took place at Kapenguria must be seen for what it really was — an incident in the war now raging between 25,000 whites, supported by 29,000 British troops and armed police, and the three million almost unarmed and completely disenfranchised Kikuyus.

The revolt of the Kikuyu — for that is what it is — can only be understood as part of the great movement for national liberation which has swept from Asia, through the Middle East into all parts of Africa. The first impact was felt in the Gold Coast where in 1949, a highly developed and well-organized nationalist movement succeeded — although not without bitter struggle in which most of the leaders were jailed — in securing a large measure of self government and the possibility of achieving complete national independence in the near future.

## CHAIN REACTION

"Gold Coastism," as it is called by the alarmed white populations, has set up a chain reaction throughout all of Africa — especially in the areas south of the equator. White and black react in their own ways. African nationalism begins to reach maturity and white colonialism degenerates into the naked rule of the gun and the club.

Malan's answer was to intensify his campaign for "apartheid" — the complete political, economic and social subjugation of the black people who, of course, constitute the vast majority of the total population. His declared aim is to defend "white civilization" against African nationalism.

In Southern Rhodesia the whites looked to Malan for leadership. Central African Federation for them became a means of achieving permanent white domination over the bordering, and predominantly black areas of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

(There are, of course, solid economic reasons for Federation from the point of view of British capitalism, but it is with the political aspect that we are here chiefly concerned.)

In Kenya the impact of "Gold Coastism" caused the tiny white population to abandon its previously semi-indulgent attitude towards Kenya African nationalism.

## CIVIL WAR STARTS

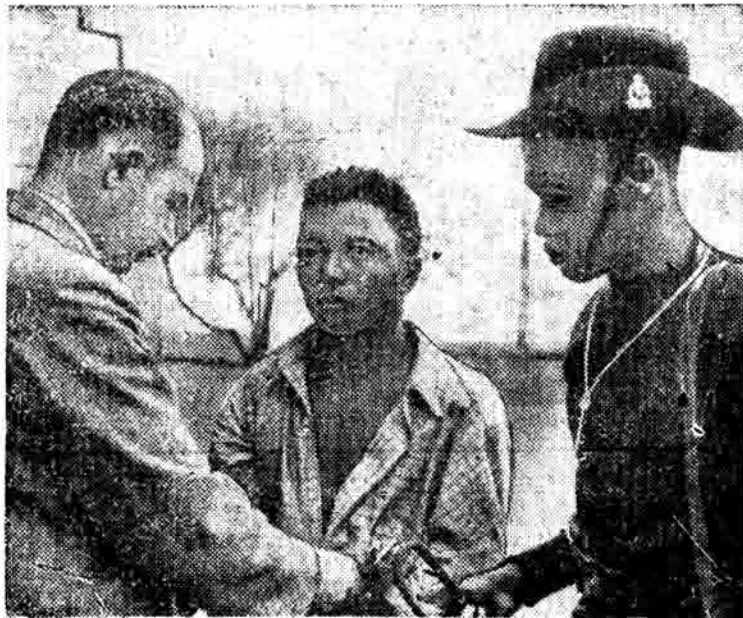
Suddenly and without warning a scare campaign was launched against Mau Mau (an organization which was quite unheard of up to last October). The body of a murdered Kikuyu chief was discovered. Mau Mau was accused of the crime and from then on the situation began rapidly to deteriorate into the state of civil war which exists in Kenya today.

First the entire independent press of the Kikuyu people was closed down forcibly. Then, in October 1952 an attack was made on the Kikuyu schools which had been set up at great sacrifice by the Kikuyu people themselves. Denounced as "hotbeds of nationalism," everyone of them was shut down.

Protests from the Kenya African Union — the largest political organization of the Kikuyu people — were met with wholesale arrests of leaders like Kenyatta who were jailed "on suspicion of organizing Mau Mau." A battalion of British troops was flown out and a British cruiser anchored in Mombasa harbor. Emergency laws were introduced and . . . civil war began in earnest.

The closing of the Kikuyu schools is of great significance

## Victim of Imperialism



A British overseer and a native policeman handcuff an African in Kenya accused of membership in the Mau Mau society. Hundreds of Africans have been killed while allegedly "resisting arrest" or by hanging after kangaroo trials. Thousands more have been thrown into concentration camps to break their resistance to British theft of natives' land.

for establishing the truth about Kenya. It is generally admitted that the Kikuyu are the most advanced and educated tribe in Central Africa — which explains, of course, their solid adherence to the cause of African independence. Their leaders are not witch doctors but people like Kenyatta, agricultural scientists educated in white universities and conversant with and sympathetic to . . . socialism! (Kenyatta, for example, was once a member of the British Independent Labor Party.)

The Kikuyu long ago abandoned the old tribal forms of organization. The so-called chiefs have been appointed and are paid by the British Government. They are in fact hirelings of the enemies of Kikuyu people — informers!

The closing of the schools because of their nationalist propaganda completely exposes the alleged purpose of British rule in Kenya which is supposed to be solely for the purpose of "educating the natives up to the point of self-government." "Self-government" is meaningless without national independence — and national independence is the primary object of African nationalism.

The school teachers were therefore guilty of putting into practice what we are alleged to have been encouraging them to do ever since the British went (uninvited) to Kenya!

## PEACEFUL ROAD CLOSED

With their leaders arrested, their press and schools closed down, and the country under martial law, it became clear to all the Kikuyu that the white minority had shut the democratic, peaceful road to national independence. The majority had either passively to submit to permanent political, economic and social discrimination — or resist with the only means available, by force.

They decided — as all oppressed peoples faced with the same choice have always decided — to resist. The young men fled to the hills and the forests and prepared, with their knives against British Sten guns, to continue the fight until justice was won. And from their forest camps the leaders of the so-called Mau Mau (which is, in reality the revolutionary wing of Kenya African Nationalism) issued this manifesto whose publication was forbidden in Kenya:

"You must feel very happy at the outward success of your cruel operation. Thousands of Africans leading a normal life have been stopped, searched, beaten, humiliated and arrested."

"You destroyed our press by arresting our editors and suppressing our newspapers. But you cannot suppress the voice of the people. The brutality and suppression, the show of force and the rule of the gun will not stop us from our goal. . . ."

" . . . We have been forced underground. If we are known you will murder us. We are not afraid. . . . We are six million and power is in our numbers. We shall retaliate in the method you have employed. We shall not forget the bad treatment we are suffering. When our time comes we shall not show mercy, because you do not know what mercy is. We will kill you like you are murdering us today. This is no threat. It is how we are feeling. Africans Unite!"

No socialist can fail to be moved by this brave declaration issued by an unarmed people forced to flee before the guns and dogs of an alien power. It follows the pattern set by the Indians, the Americans and the Irish under similar circumstances.

The American colonists waged a three-year war against British troops before finally gaining their independence. The Indian people suffered a century of

persecution during which time the jails were filled with Indian "Kenyattas" and massacres like Amritsar fanned the flames of nationalism. As for Ireland, British terror was notorious. Sixteen men were summarily executed in 1916 and 101 were shot or hanged between 1921 and 1923 — quite apart from the thousands of Irish patriots killed in battle. But all this display of force did not succeed in Ireland, in India or in America — and it will not, in the long run, succeed in Kenya.

There are now 29,000 British troops and armed police in Kenya in action against the Kikuyu people. Executions are now an everyday occurrence. Cattle have been confiscated in an effort to starve the people into submission. Homes have been burned down and thousands of innocent people have been arrested and confined in rudely constructed concentration camps where the gallows stand threateningly in the center of the compound. Malan has lent police dogs to assist in the hunt. But "democrats" like Labor M. P. Paget are not satisfied. Loudly they call for Temple to be transferred from Malaya to Kenya!

## IRELAND OVER AGAIN

It is Ireland all over again! Even the "Black and Tans" are there — hoodlums white settlers armed to the teeth and ready (and authorized) to shoot any Kikuyu on sight. The Jan. 4 Observer describes these "black and tans" — this so-called police reserve — in the following terms: "In the police reserve there were young men of whom 'undisciplined sadists' would not be an unfair description . . . boasting of the way they had beaten prisoners. . . ."

The terror has been accurately described by the correspondent of the Economist on March 21: "It is quite probable that ugly things are now happening in Kenya. The number of Kikuyu shot 'trying to escape,' 'for refusing to halt,' or 'attempting to wrest a sten gun from a guard whilst under arrest,' has suddenly risen. Yet the Kikuyu are said by the whites to be inherently cowardly people. It is either a brave or a very desperate man who will try with his bare hands to wrest a sten gun from his guard."

The press of this country, all the Government speakers and — be it admitted — most of Labor's main spokesmen paint Mau Mau as some kind of "relapse into barbarism," a sort of "wild blood lust" which has unaccountably swept over a normally peaceful people.

Never was such a lie so assiduously propagated against a brave and oppressed people.

## SUPPORTED BY PEOPLE

First of all, Mau Mau has the support of almost the entire Kikuyu population. The same correspondent quoted above, who is by no means sympathetic to Mau Mau, writes:

"The Kikuyu who take no active part in Mau Mau attacks, but who give the Mau Mau gangs at least passive support, for example by concealing their whereabouts and supplying them with food, are not just terrorized into doing so. The Mau Mau gets a degree of sympathy which is not entirely born of fear (although Mau Mau reprisals against informers are swift and terrible). There can be little doubt that probably the majority of the Kikuyu believe the whites stole their land. . . . (our emphasis)."

The leaders of African nationalism have never disguised their hatred of informers — the appointed chiefs paid by the whites, the "loyal Kikuyu." They have never denied killing these traitors

to the cause of African independence. But ruthless destruction of informers has accompanied every genuine popular revolution. It happened in Ireland, in India and it happened in the former American colonies.

But the Mau Mau also kills innocent women and children. Do they? We have only got the word of the Kenya Government for that, the word of a Government which represents the most brutal bunch of white killers in the whole British Commonwealth. The Kikuyu cannot refute these charges because the Kikuyu have no press and all meetings are banned. The whites can put about any story they like without any fear of contradiction. Let us not be too ready to believe them.

## ASSIST BRITISH

Why should revolutionary Africans want to murder their own people? Informers — yes, but not innocent women and children. But what is true is that these alleged massacres are of the greatest possible assistance to the whites! Fresh contingents of British troops are marched to the scene of the massacres, obviously to ensure that these conscripted boys from Kent and Lancashire do not feel any sympathy for the poor people whom they are ordered to hunt and shoot down like dogs.

It is therefore entirely possible that the massacres were the work of government agents — not revolutionaries.

Mau Mau is not some kind of reversion to barbarism. Certainly a few witch doctors will be found in the camp of the Kikuyu but it is not the witch doctors who determine the nature of the movement — it is the passionate desire to be free of the white man's racial discrimination which upholds his "right" to all the best land stolen from the Kikuyu.

Those who want a revolution made in accordance with rules framed at Transport House will want in vain. The Kikuyu have no



JOMO KENYATTA, leading Kenya nationalist figure, has been framed up and sentenced by the British rulers to seven years imprisonment at hard labor, on the false charge he organized and inspired the Mau Mau movement among Kikuyu tribesmen who are in revolt to win their international liberation.

other methods but force to secure their freedom. It is not their choice — it has been imposed upon them by the brutal policy of "apartheid" which is supported by whites throughout Africa.

## OTHERS INVOLVED

And not only the Kikuyu are involved. All the tribes are awaiting the outcome of the struggle. The arrest of Odede who is not a Kikuyu and was a Government-nominated member of the Kenya Legislative Council is proof of that. The battle for African independence has been joined and sooner or later, the whole of Africa will become involved. Terror will only spread the fire and guarantee a gigantic blood letting. That is the policy of Lyttleton.

We believe that every socialist must place himself on the side of the Kikuyu who are fighting in the forest and the mountains — the people who are led by the so-called Mau Mau. Walter Sisulu, secretary of the South African National Congress, is reported by the Observer as saying — "The entire African people are bitter against the British Government. We regard Mau Mau as a legitimate organization of the Kenya Africans." With that we agree.

The embattled people of Kenya have no press to speak for them, their case is not put before the British people. We must do it for them. It is the very least we can do if we are to maintain the honor of British Labor.

# The American Way of Life

## The Washroom Menace

The foundations of the Republic are cracking. A New York State Supreme Court Justice has just ruled that past membership in the Communist Party is not grounds for dismissal of a public washroom attendant. The judge has thus opened the way for subversive infiltration of one of the most sensitive areas of the nation's security.

The court ruling involves 57-year-old Bonaventura Pinggera of 116 E. 120th St., Manhattan, a Swiss-Italian who became an American citizen in 1942. Pinggera, for ten years a "temporary" New York City washroom attendant, had carefully awaited the opportune moment to penetrate more deeply into the government apparatus. In 1951, he felt the time was ripe for his next bold move; he took a civil service examination for "permanent" status. His plot worked. In September 1952 he went on the payroll as a full-fledged washroom attendant grade one — grade one, no less — at \$2,110 a year. Then came the culmination of his cunning scheme. He was assigned to the St. Mary's Park comfort station, St. Mary's Ave. and E. 149th — in the Bronx!

Here he might have carried on his dirty work indefinitely had fate not intervened in the form of a Municipal Civil Service Commission investigation. Four months after assuming his new status, Pinggera was called in by the commission "for inquiry as to fitness." Under merciless interrogation, Pinggera broke down. To the horror of the commissioners, he confessed he had belonged to the Communist Party from 1936 to 1939, when he was expelled for criticizing the Stalin-Hitler pact. The commission fired him.

Pinggera then applied all his craftiness. He appealed to the New York Civil Liberties Union which aided him in obtaining a court hearing for reinstatement on his job. He found a dune — if not worse — in the form of Justice Aron Steuer. On May 27, the judge ordered Pinggera reinstated, declaring in part:

"It is a bit difficult to visualize how a washroom attendant in his official capacity can give aid to his country's enemies. To believe that the conspiracy involved in 'going underground' [the Civil Service Commission's claim] would be employed to obtain such a position borders on the fantastic."

But do not think this ruling will go unchallenged. The country does not lack for vigilant patriots. The Wall Street Journal, for one, has not been taken in. It sternly enquires if Judge Steuer "knows all the facts about washrooms," adding that "as a Communist courier Whittaker Chambers used the subway, a dusty hole in the wall and even after he left the party he hid papers in a pumpkin. A washroom might fit quite as neatly into the twisted pattern of Communist schemings. . . ."

Why even J. Edgar Hoover will tell you that funny things can happen in washrooms and that even here we must practise patriotic vigilance to plug any leak that might endanger our national security.

— By Lewis Peterson

# THE MILITANT ARMY

Although the campaign for subscriptions to The Militant was concluded several weeks ago, the comrades who participated in the work have not forgotten their experiences. Subsetting, as well as the regular sale of single copies, continues to be an important task for members of the Militant Army, who recognize the need to spread the ideas of socialism throughout the whole year. The experiences of the campaign have given fresh inspiration to veteran submitters. And new comrades who were a little hesitant at the beginning of the campaign found that it is easy to sell The Militant because the paper fulfills a real need.



One of these comrades is Renee, a New York member of the Militant Army. Renee had sold The Militant at meetings and on the campus, but door-to-door subsetting was a new experience for her. At the end of the campaign she was in first place in the local contest, winning the prize of DuBois' book Black Reconstruction. Here is her account of what the campaign meant to her:

"Having never gone out on a subscription drive before, I was hesitant about going door-to-door. The first time I went out with Janet. I'll never forget how I felt when she rang the first bell. 'A middle-aged woman, who worked in a factory and had taken the paper before, opened the door. We told her who we were and she invited us in. She was both pleasant and friendly. We talked for a while about the new Eisenhower regime and its anti-labor nature. She agreed that this was certainly the time for a workers to read a worker's paper designed to give the news as it affects his life. She took a six-months sub."

"Need I say that a minute after meeting her I had lost all shyness and fear? I began chiming in with Janet as I realized this woman, as the other people I later got subs from, was friendly because she felt the truth of our ideas. Understanding that I had something to offer gave me the confidence that I had lacked. By the end of that

first afternoon Janet and I had visited about six people and got three subs."

"The next Sunday brought one six-months sub from a person who had never taken our paper before, but who was interested in our program. We spoke to him for about a half hour answering his questions and selling both him and his friend a copy of the pamphlet by Joseph Hansen, The Socialist Workers Party. What It Is and What It Stands For. Another year sub was sold to a veteran who had taken our paper for six months and just needed to be visited to renew."

"In between that Sunday and the following one, I had gained enough confidence to talk to two of my relatives about the paper. After a few discussions I got a sub from each and sold two more pamphlets."

"A week later I received a call from one of them who was very enthusiastic about the Hansen pamphlet and confessed that while she was a liberal when I was still in elementary school she had not known of our ideas. She now wants to become better acquainted with them."

"A young Compass Club member was my next contact. After several long discussions he took a sub, a Hansen pamphlet going along with it. 'The next afternoon, on my lunch hour, I began talking Militant to another office worker whom I had known for years. It seemed to be just the right time, for the girl too seemed to be looking for answers to the political questions of today, remarking, 'How can anyone help being political nowadays?'"

"On the last Sunday of the campaign Janet and I sold another sub to The Militant after a ten-minute discussion with a person who had never read the paper before. I'm certainly proud that I was the top subgetter in New York, but more than what I did for the campaign is what the campaign did for me."

Our sincere thanks to S. R. of New York for his contribution of \$20 to help meet the printing costs of The Militant. Thanks also to the friend S. R. of New York for \$10; to J. K. of San Francisco for \$8; and to J. K. H. of Chicago for \$1.85 sent in with his renewal to The Militant.

# Subscribe!

Start your subscription now. Clip the coupon and mail it in today. Send \$1.50 for six months subscription or \$3 for a full year to The Militant, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Name .....

Street ..... Zone .....

City ..... State .....

☐ \$1.50 Six months ☐ \$3.00 Full year ☐ New ☐ Renewal



Subscriptions: \$3 per year; \$1.50 for 6 months. Foreign: \$4.50 per year; \$2.25 for 6 months. Canadian: \$3.50 per year; \$1.75 for 6 months. Bundle Orders: 5 or more copies 66 each in U.S., 76 each in foreign countries.

## THE MILITANT

Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working People  
THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION  
116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y. Phone: AL 5-7468  
Editor: GEORGE BREITMAN  
Business Manager: JOSEPH HANSEN

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."

Vol. XVII - No. 23

Monday, June 8, 1953

### Another Witch-Hunt Victim

Through perjury trials, the witch hunters have been securing convictions in American courts on the basis of guilt by association. Flushed by success they are now moving to undermine the right of trial by jury. This is involved in the case of the young scientist William Perl who has been convicted "on two counts of perjury."

The Department of Justice has worked for years to link this former physics instructor at Columbia University, and one of the country's leading experts on jet propulsion, with the so-called "atomic spy ring." The jury exonerated Perl of any association with three members of this "spy ring."

But the government did show at the trial that "Perl was in '38 City College class with Rosenberg and Sobell, each graduating with engineering degrees." The government further showed that Perl had "met" Rosenberg and Sobell "in 1944 and 1946" (N.Y. Herald-Tribune, May 23). On the basis of such evidence, every member of City College class of '38, with or without "engineering degrees," is henceforth suspect and under a threat of investigation or indictment; and the same thing goes for all who happened to have encountered members of the alleged "spy ring," including — the convicted Perl.

Not satisfied with establishing thereby one more precedent for conviction on the basis of guilt by association, the Department of Justice and the FBI have opened an attack on the right to trial by jury.

The government failed to produce a scrap of evidence concerning Perl's alleged participation in the "spy ring," a case which itself has been challenged by eminent authorities, including the world-famous atomic scientist Harold Urey. Yet the prosecutor had the gall to announce in court that the FBI had suddenly come into

possession of "information 'directly' tying Perl with the Rosenberg spy ring. Mr. Martin (Ass't U.S. Attorney) said this secret data could not be made public but would be supplied to the judge in private before sentence is imposed June 5." (Same source.)

The right to trial by jury is the product of centuries of struggle by the popular masses to participate in the judicial process. Without it democratic rights and civil liberties are a fiction. Why? Because there is no safeguard whatever against the courts being used as instruments of oppression and tyranny if the power to judge what the facts are upon evidence laid before the courts is left to the presiding magistrate.

It is the juries — and no one else — who must decide whether the evidence laid before the court is true. Such evidence must be presented openly to the jury, with the defendant guaranteed a speedy and public trial. All this is guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. But Eisenhower's Department of Justice, particularly the FBI, are now moving to violate all this. They propose, in fact, to prohibit the participation of the people in the judicial process. They propose to start turning the clock back to Star-Chamber procedures, back to the practices of totalitarian regimes.

The organized workers must sound the alarm. If such a precedent is allowed to be established in the Perl case, the unions will presently find themselves at the mercy of the courts — on the basis of "secret evidence" presented "in private" to the judge.

This legal thuggery must be denounced for what it is. If the FBI or Department of Justice has any "information" against Perl, let them present this "secret data" in court before a duly constituted jury. Hands off the RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY!

### McCarthy's Threat to Labor

When will the American labor movement become fully awakened to the menace of McCarthyism?

Already, large sections of public opinion, educators, clergy, etc., have seen the extent of the danger. Especially in foreign countries, for example in Britain, the meaning of the demagogue McCarthy and his intentions have been widely explained. One example is Labor Party leader Attlee, who pointed out that it is hard to say whether McCarthy or Eisenhower has more power in the U.S. Another is Bertrand Russell who predicted in the N. Y. Times Magazine, that McCarthy would become the ruler of the U.S. in the not-too-distant future.

A good sign can be found in the May issue of the United Automobile Worker, published by the UAW-CIO. At the end of a long editorial on McCarthy, the paper says:

"You can't shun McCarthy any more than you could shun Hitler and Mussolini. By the time the world woke up to the truth about Hitler and Mussolini, the blood bath was drawn and waiting. The time to get

McCarthy is while he's still just a Senator...

"McCarthy is using the Communist issue to ride to power in the United States just as Mussolini used the Red issue in Italy and Hitler used the Bolshevik menace in Germany."

"Does that sound ridiculous? Let's keep it that way, and not turn it into prophecy..."

The truth is that nothing less than a determined stand by the labor movement can roll back McCarthyism. The other forces in the nation that oppose him today are weak and unreliable. They can capitulate to McCarthy in the same way that liberal opposition capitulated to Hitler and Mussolini. In any event, without the labor movement, no opposition can make a successful stand against McCarthy.

The conditions are present for a powerful labor unity against the fascist from Wisconsin. The ranks of labor are beginning to show more awareness, and this spirit of concern over the high-riding demagogue is starting to find its way into the labor press. The time to begin the fight is now.

### Oil Trust's Welfare State

Five giant oil companies are charged by the federal government with conspiring to monopolize the country's domestic and foreign oil trade. They control 81.5% of the world's estimated oil reserves, 55% of the refining capacity of all capitalist countries, two-thirds of the world's privately owned tanker fleet and virtually all pipelines outside the United States.

This vast empire, the government charges, is maintained through "a concert of action" among the five together with 33 jointly owned companies which they created. They curtail domestic production of petroleum to favor the importation of their foreign petroleum and to artificially fix domestic and world prices. They divide foreign producing and marketing territories and exclude other companies from the "opportunity" to engage in the lucrative foreign oil operations and importations. They pool their facilities, monopolize patents and processes, swallow up other companies engaged in foreign trade and jack up profits on government contracts by submitting non-competitive bids.

These marauding operations are criminal violations of a whole raft of "anti-trust" laws. Yet they are the characteristic, normal practices of modern Big Business in every major industry. The laws against monopolies have not retarded the growth of the giant monopolies and their rise to the commanding heights of the entire economy. They have not stood in the way of

Big Money taking over the government itself lock, stock and barrel.

At first when the government filed criminal charges against the oil empire it looked like a serious attack upon monopoly. That was under Truman. The case dragged on for a few years. Then Big Business succeeded in installing the Eisenhower Administration. The criminal charge was dropped. It was replaced merely by a civil suit. Finally, the government of Big Business, which appeared to be prosecuting its own flesh and blood like a benefactor of the people, rewarded the oil bandits with the fabulous gift of the black gold in the tidelands.

Trillions of dollars worth of public offshore oil resources are being transferred by Congress to the oil trust under guise of their allocation to the states. No matter what the outcome of the government suit against Big Oil will be, this latest robbery of the people will still further speed the growth of the monopolists.

That is the way the government of Big Business punishes Big Business crime. The oil scandal once again shows that the people are without a government of their own. They need a Workers and Farmers Government which would legislate Big Business out of existence and begin to utilize the wealth of the country for the needs of the people instead of a profiteering gang of billionaire thieves.

## Book Censorship Grows As Part of Witch Hunt

By Fred Arens

For years now censors in Boston and elsewhere have been banning books on the grounds of obscenity. The situation has been passed over humorously, because such a ban was a guarantee of increased sales. Today, however, book censorship has become part of the general attack against civil liberties and intellectual freedom.

The hand of the censor is reaching into cities all over the country, and the original grounds of obscenity have been extended to include any attitude considered objectionable by the self-appointed censors.

This is all the more significant when we consider that mass communication media, such as radio, cinema, television and magazines, have long had a self-imposed censorship, and publishing was virtually the only field in which some amount of non-conformity was still possible.

Appropriately enough, this attack on freedom of publication has been spearheaded by the National Organization of Decent Literature (NODL), backed by the Chicago Archdiocese Council of Catholics.

For some time now, the Catholic Church, whose prestige and influence have greatly increased in the post-war years, has been engaged in a powerful and well-financed campaign against the traditional American concept of separation of state and church, and many aspects of progressive education. The NODL Committee, active in the publication field, is but one of many efforts to force an authoritarian pattern upon America.

This committee circulates a national blacklist, and by applying the political pressure of the organized Church and enlisting the support of Congressmen McCarthy, Jenner, Velde, the Amer-

ican Legion and the Gathings Congressional Investigating Committee, has forced many police officials to use this list as a basis for local action.

#### FAMOUS AUTHORS

Among the authors banned recently by this and similar groups have been: Faulkner, Richard Wright, Caldwell, Hemingway, Dos Passos, Maupassant, D. H. Lawrence, Howard Fast, Anna Seghers, Maugham, Freud and Apuleius.

The scope of this trend is exemplified by an ordinance in St. Cloud, Minnesota, which outlaws books and periodicals that "prominently feature an account of horrors, robberies, murders, arson, assault with caustic chemicals, assault with a deadly weapon, burglary, kidnapping, mayhem, rape, theft, voluntary manslaughter, ridicule of law enforcement or parental authority; or are obscene, immoral, or lewd, or ridicule any person or persons by reason of race, creed, or color; or advocate un-American or subversive activities."

Mrs. Elmer Barg, chairman of the board, commented: "It isn't a matter of whether it is constitutional to ban objectionable literature. It's just that young people shouldn't be reading that kind of thing."

St. Cloud is but one of many smaller communities where this kind of book-hunting has taken place. The State of Georgia is now deciding whether to ban Chaucer.

In Middlesex County, N. J., a Committee on Objectionable Literature has banned 26 titles.

In Youngstown, Ohio, Police Chief Edward J. Allen, Jr., has forced distributors to remove many pocket-sized books under threat of arrest.

Censorship has been active in

Manchester, N. H., and there have been public book-burnings in North Carolina and Oklahoma.

The hunt has now reached even the large cities. Police in Cleveland have banned pocket-sized editions of Freud's General Introduction to Psychoanalysis because "it contains a chapter on sex."

Police censorship is in force in Detroit.

In Brooklyn the Catholic Decent Literature Committee has pressured sixteen stores into stopping the sale of 414 publications, under threat of economic boycott. A local church committee made the rounds of neighborhood candy stores, urging them to remove from their shelves a number of books, including novels by some of America's foremost authors. Those stores which resisted found that their sales dropped off alarmingly. Although at first they received sporadic encouragement from people who went out of their way to patronize them, they were finally forced to yield.

An ominous indication of the national scope of this movement is the recent activity of a congressional investigating committee on "Current Pornographic Materials," headed by E. C. Gathings of Arkansas. The Gathings committee, although ostensibly concerned only with pornographic materials, nevertheless refers in its report to "content that was believed to be subversive of morals, allegiance or faith."

It attacks The Haters, by Theodore Strauss, because "the author was obviously trying to cash in on the Scottsboro Negro agitation which was communist-inspired."

It objects to *Cage of Darkness*, by Rene Masson, because "the author does not seem to like the upper classes or law-enforcement officers."

### Another French Premier Out



Rene Mayer (l.) shortly after he quit as French premier in internal crisis is shown talking to a reporter. Mayer's government fell the same day Eisenhower announced plans for a secret Big Three meeting in Bermuda. The unstable French capitalist government has had 17 changes of regime since the end of World War II.

The report implies that it strongly favors federal censorship. It urges an "effort by Congress" against publishers and favors new laws which will limit "the liberal conception of the tradition founded upon the constitutional provision guaranteeing the freedom of the press."

The committee itself, as if fearing that such legislation would be unconstitutional in the light of past court decisions, has used the threat of federal legislation to force publishers to impose self-censorship. Four years ago, Rep. John Wood asked colleges throughout the nation to submit their textbooks to the Un-American Committee for approval. This attempt failed, but the Gathings Committee has requested new appropriations and in the current witch-hunting atmosphere will probably get them.

Opposition to this movement has not crystallized on a na-

tionally organized basis. It has remained restricted mainly to small academic and other professional groups which feel personally threatened by the witch hunt, and who have limited their protest. They usually decry attacks on books and the press, while remaining strangely silent on the Smith Act, Taft-Hartley law and the general onslaught against radicals and the labor movement as a whole.

What is needed to halt the ominous trend toward censorship in America is organization of a vigorous, militant protest movement. This should be coupled with political resistance to the witch hunt. This means building an independent Labor Party that can defeat both the Republicans and Democrats, the two capitalist parties responsible for the current drive to gut the book shelves of America.

## SWP Leadership Plans Activities

(Continued from page 1)

This settlement of the differences and preparation of a new stage of the discussion was unanimously passed and enthusiastically received by the whole body as providing a solid basis for comradely collaboration.

The National Committee unanimously voted to exchange the posts now held by the principal officers of the Socialist Workers Party. James P. Cannon, founder of the American Trotskyist movement, was elected National Chairman; Farrell Dobbs, presidential candidate of the party in the 1948 and 1952 elections, becomes National Secretary.

In his speech at its close Comrade Cannon summarized the significance of the plenum proceedings as follows:

"Engels once said, quoting Hegel, that a party proves its right to exist by the fact that it splits and can stand a split. We have seen that law demonstrated in the past history of our party on several occasions. At this plenum, the Socialist Workers Party has proved that it can stand a faction fight of the greatest severity and intensity, and still preserve and even strengthen its unity."

"In my opinion, we have cemented here a real and genuine unity, which has two antagonistic and yet supplementary aspects. On the one hand, the plenum has seen the firm consolidation of a majority group, which can now lead the party with unchallenged authority. On the other hand, the plenum has shown a strong minority of qualified comrades, with many talents, who have not surrendered or been asked to surrender any of their opinions or any of their normal rights as a minority."

"Party unity and party peace have been secured and guaranteed at the plenum by an agreement of the majority and the minority, after a hard year-long struggle, on the basis of a definite and clearly established relation of forces. For that reason, I think we have a right to confidence that the party unity and the party peace are firmly based and secure."

"In my opinion, we will now have a long peace in the party. And it will be a most beneficial peace for the party, in two respects. First, the party work will be developed unitedly, and with more spirit and energy than for a long time. Second, the party patriotism of the members of both factions will be stronger than ever, and they will compete with each other in friendly rivalry to prove who are the best party builders and party doers."

"The discussion of questions in dispute, whether fully developed or merely tentative and embryonic, can now be conducted in a calm atmosphere, without factional bias or exaggeration, without insults or denigration on one side

or the other — with the aim of clarifying the issues; with the aim of teaching each other and learning from each other."

"I think we are all aware that we have participated in a historic plenum. It will be regarded in future times as a turning point, an event of transcendent importance for the socialist revolution in the United States. For the revolution is not simply the struggle for power, and the transformation of the social system from capitalism to socialism. The revolution is also the preparatory period, the period in which we are living now, and the most important part of the preparation for the revolution is the building of a Leninist party which alone can organize and lead the struggle for power in this country and carry it through to irreversible victory."

"In the factional struggle which has culminated in the peace agreement at this plenum, the party has demonstrated its right to live, and its ability, by its own inner resources, to conquer the problems which challenged its claim to a great historic mission."

"The most important question of the workers' movement is the question of the party — which is the question of the leadership of the workers' movement. By the same token, the most important question of the party is the question of the party leadership. We know, of course, that it is not the party that creates the program. It is the program that creates the party, as well as its leading staff."

"But this does not happen automatically. It requires human intervention at the right time. If this intervention comes at the right time, historical periods are leaped over, and much time is gained. If the human intervention is not available, there are great delays and needless defeats."

#### THE SWP

"The most important party in the entire world is the Socialist Workers Party. It is the party with the greatest historical mission ever given to a group of people on this planet. Trotsky wrote in 1929, in his first letter to the founding group of our movement, that in the final analysis all the problems of this epoch will be solved on American soil; that, although in order of precedence it seemed that the revolution would come sooner in other countries than in the United States, a change in the historical order was easily possible which might put America in the first rank; and that in any case, a social crisis could arise in this country much sooner than anyone assumed, and from the beginning have a very feverish development. And Trotsky said that the conclusion from this perspective is that it is necessary to prepare. From that point of view, he said, our founding conference, which

he was addressing, had a world historic importance."

"The present situation in the world shows the long-delayed revolution marching with seven-league boots. The decline of capitalism seems to be symmetrically matched by the rise of tremendous revolutionary movements and the strengthening of the revolutionary currents, especially now in the colonial world."

"From all indications, a revival of the October Revolution, with all of its spirit and all of its power, is germinating in the Soviet Union again, promising to bring into the arena as an independent factor the immeasurable power of the new Soviet proletariat, which now matches the mighty proletariat of the United States in numbers and social weight."

"All the revolutionary forces moving in the world now confront as their mortal enemy, the great power of American imperialism, with its program of war and counter-revolution, designed to arrest the development of the revolutionary process in other parts of the world."

"As long as this power remains, with its capacity for military devastation, every revolution throughout the world remains tentative, pending the outcome of the struggle with this monster of American imperialism. The development of an economy for use — the transitional development of China and all the colonial countries to a higher system of organized and planned economy utilizing the most modern techniques — is threatened and arrested at every step by the necessity to defend the revolutionary gains against the aggression of this monstrous reactionary power of American imperialism."

"We are all convinced that the course of the world revolution is now irreversible. But the speed at which it develops, and the time between the present and the eventual socialist transformation of the entire world, hangs in the balance until the issue is settled in the United States. For the final decision of the issue of capitalism or socialism will be made, as Trotsky said, on American soil. It is from this circumstance that comes our great historical mission. It is from this comes our great destiny."

#### Capitalism's Dilemma

Worried Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson, former General Motors president, recently told a Senate appropriations subcommittee hearing on the country's tremendous manufacturing capacity that one trouble is that "nobody has thought what we're going to do if we don't have a war."

## World Events

By Charles Hanley

MOSCOW ANNOUNCED the dissolution of the Soviet Control Commission in East Germany May 28. Military administration is replaced by a civilian High Commissioner, Vladimir Semenov. Military commander Vassily Chuikov will be limited to commanding Soviet occupation troops in East Germany. According to the May 28 Christian Science Monitor, the Russians have requisitioned large quantities of raw materials and food in recent weeks, "stripping East Germany bare in a manner that has started serious speculation in Allied circles." They report that the tactics of recent weeks "have amounted to a take while the taking is good" and that this "may be clearing the decks for a quick move in some political direction" possibly "eventual withdrawal of the Soviet Army." In their opinion, the Soviets may be cranking up a genuine German unity drive, and are prepared to go through with it. But they want to give the West a ruined east zone...

ANGLO-AMERICAN EFFORTS to speed the rearmament of Germany in preparation for war on the Soviet bloc still faces many hurdles. According to a Bonn report in the May 31 N. Y. Herald Tribune, "Dr. Adenauer has been advised that the (West German Supreme) Court is virtually certain to hold that several features of the (remilitarization) pacts are unconstitutional. . . . Prospects for complete ratification . . . before the general election set for next September in West Germany have almost vanished."

MAO TSE-TUNG has ordered a reform of the Chinese type of writing and alphabet in order to facilitate the struggle against widespread illiteracy, says the Brussels daily La Lanterne.

THE FRENCH IMPERIALIST despots devaluated the currencies of Viet-Nam and Laos without seriously consulting the "independent" governments of these colonies which have both been solemnly recognized by the U.S. as sovereign states. The Prime Minister of Viet-Nam addressed a letter of protest to the French government May 12, stating that his country's independence had been violated by the French. He warned that "the devaluation of the piastre will probably provoke the dissatisfaction of the entire people and might set in motion a violent social agitation and perhaps demonstrations which could disturb the peace."

TWO MILLION of Italy's workers are unemployed — one out of every ten members of the labor force," the June 1 Wall Street Journal declares. "An estimated two million more work

for only a fraction of the year. . . . Shipyards and other heavy metal products plants of Italy as a whole are operating at only 50% to 60% of capacity. . . . Much discontent again will be reflected in votes for the Communists and their fellow-traveling Nenni socialists" (in the coming elections).

NIKOLAI VASILIEV, Minister of state control of the Russian Soviet Republic, announced May 22 that the guilty officials, who framed-up and tortured Jewish doctors into making "confessions" of crimes they did not commit, have been punished. Vasiliev did not announce the nature of the punishment.

DR. DANIEL F. MALAN, South Africa's racist Prime Minister, who is in London for the coronation . . . has run into an embarrassment in the form of a song 'Don't Malign Malan' sung nightly by an American Negro singer, Marie Bryant, in the London Hippodrome's current revue," reports the May 30 N. Y. Times. "Dr. Malan's Nationalist followers here, and other whites, are fuming over the song, which pokes fun at South Africa's color bar, with international implications." The song, one of the most popular items in the revue, was OK'd by the Lord Chamberlain, official censor of theaters in the United Kingdom. One of the verses goes:

Don't malign Malan because he dislikes our tan.  
We know that it's wrong to have a skin that's all brown.  
And wrong to be born on the wrong side of town.  
It is quite right that our filthy old homes be burned down.  
Malan is a wonderful 'man —  
Don't malign Malan,  
He's doing the best he can.

PRAVDA REBUKED certain propagandists in the Soviet press who have been concentrating their chief attention on the problem of transition from a system of "commodity exchange," which is a fundamental characteristic of capitalism, to a system of "product exchange." The rebuke, delivered May 29, said that "Product exchange can take the place of trade only as the result of an ideal organization of Soviet trade. This is a matter of the future. . . . The development of Soviet trade is inseparably connected with monetary circulation, since the movement of commodities from production to consumer is accomplished by means of money." This admission belies the Stalinist propaganda that socialism has been achieved in the Soviet Union and shows that vestiges of capitalism are still strong in the degenerated workers state.



## The Negro Struggle

# Capitalist Future and Jobs

By Jean Blake

We have made the point on many occasions that Negroes in the United States, as a group, because they are Jim Crowed into a lower caste within the working class, have less illusions about capitalism and its future than even the working class as a whole.

Few Negroes, for example, are as naive as many white workers who fall for and repeat unquestioningly the propaganda dinned into our ears on the radio, in the schools, and through every other medium of expression — the propaganda that we have democracy, freedom and equality in our society.

Particularly in a period like the present, of relatively full employment in the richest and most productive capitalist country in the world, it is difficult for many white workers to recognize how the capitalist system discriminates against them as a class. They are not constantly being "hit in the belly," to use an old expression, by the injustice of a class system that reserves for a small minority of the population the ownership and control of the means of production and all the "rights" and privileges that go with that ownership.

It is true that many white workers are no longer such rock-ribbed believers in the stability of the capitalist system as they once were. Many workers realize how superficial the present "prosperity" is. They fear that capitalism can no longer maintain full production and employment without war.

But lack of confidence in capitalism is even more widespread among Negroes.

They are closer than most whites to the unpleasant realities of capitalism and therefore have less illusions about the economic facts of life. W. O. Walker, publisher of the *Cleveland Call and Post* (and a supporter of capitalism), expressed in his column of May 23 what is generally recognized among his readers:

"Let's not kid ourselves; the present era of plenty of jobs and easy money will not last always. Eventually peace will descend upon this war-weary world, and with peace will come a cessation of squandering of our tax money on guns, ammunition and hand-outs in a desperate effort to buy friends and allies. When this peace era does finally arrive, jobs will not be as plentiful and spending money not as free. . . ."

"We are only fooling ourselves if we think that, because employment in the big cities is plentiful and easy, the same condition exists in the hundreds of smaller towns of the state. Conditions in many of these towns are deplorable. Isolated and left to themselves, new to the community in which they live, economic conditions among many of our people are alarming."

Mr. Walker reflects what the Negro workers know about the future which capitalism has in store for them. But he offers no program and therefore no leadership pointing to a better future.

Real leadership will indicate what must be done to change things, how to end the inequalities and injustices of capitalism and substitute the socialist system of production to serve and advance the human race.

## Add Ashes -- One Dash

By Thomas Raymond

The scaling of Mount Everest, a magnificent personal achievement for the two men who stood at its summit for the first time in human history, is also a symbol of the striving of mankind for the highest peaks in every region of endeavor.

Capitalism could not permit this event to pass, however, without adding the taste of ashes to the draught. In a news account of the climb, the *N.Y. Times* inserted the following paragraph:

"The twenty Sherpa guides belong to a caste of mountain dwellers on the southern slopes of the Himalayas, with their capital at Namche Bazar. They have been an indispensable part of this, as of every preceding Mount Everest expedition."

"Seven Sherpas died on the mountain in the 1922 expedition and many others have died since with later expeditions. But the supply of these good-humored, devoted and highly courageous men never fails."

One would think that the *Times* could, at least this once, restrain itself from introducing the note of condescending chauvinism which one feels in these words. Apparently, however, imperialist hauteur

is stronger in such people than human solidarity, even on this occasion, when a Nepalese citizen stood together with a New Zealander on the tallest summit of the earth.

Another "slip" in the same story fails even to list the Indian, Tensing Norkay, one of the two who made it to the top, as a member of the expedition. Still elsewhere, it is reported that "the British climbers" had given Queen Elizabeth a "world-shaking coronation present." Again, it is reported that the expedition consisted of "thirteen Britons."

In general, the total effect of the reports has been to make it appear as though "thirteen Britons," aided by a group of "servants," made this successful attempt on Everest, and that one mountain climber, accompanied by an inferior assistant whose achievement has naturally a lesser significance, reached the top.

Just leave it to the capitalist racists to add their quota of bitterness to the thrill that ran through the world when the news of the conquest of Everest came across the wires.

## Notes from the News

**THE TWO LARGEST UNIONS** in this country, the CIO United Automobile Workers and Steelworkers have advanced the guaranteed annual wage as one of their main demands. At his news conference last week President Eisenhower asserted that the demand was entirely up to the unions and management with the government disclaiming any intention to "interfere."

**WILLIAM Z. FOSTER**, 72-year-old National Chairman of the Communist Party, was judged too ill to stand trial on the five-year-old indictment charging violation of the Smith "Gag" Act and Judge Sylvester Ryan granted an indefinite continuance. The Stalinist chieftain has a bad heart condition and the court-appointed physicians admitted that bringing him to trial would lead to the "grave possibility of serious (perhaps fatal) consequences to the defendant or of permanent impairment to his health."

**WALTER REUTHER** "is in periodic communication with the White House, and his requests for appointments with President Eisenhower are honored with comparative alacrity," Marguerite Higgins reveals in the May 31 *N.Y. Herald Tribune*. The head of the CIO and the United Automobile Workers told the reporter that the CIO favored Adlai E. Stevenson in the last election and that "if the CIO had it to do over again, it would probably support Mr. Stevenson again." What labor got out of supporting Stevenson, Reuther did not say. Nor did he report any benefits from his social calls on Eisenhower.

**TEN MEMBERS** of Local 222, CIO Oil Workers International Union won office in the recent elections in Lockport, Ill., according to *Federated Press* June 1. The offices won by union men include the top position of mayor, which was taken by Daniel T. Lambert, head of the Peoples Party. William J. Brown and Norman F. Solley were elected aldermen. Joseph Durin, a former Local 222 member, was also elected alderman. Other Oil Worker members won on the Democratic ticket. In nearby Joliet township another Local 222 member was elected assistant supervisor. In Rockford, four CIO members won office and Milton Lundstrom of the AFL International Typographical Union was elected mayor. William E. White, president of the American Newspaper Guild Local was named city clerk. Three other CIO members were elected aldermen.

**STUART DENTON MORRIS**, British clergyman and General Secretary of Great Britain's Peace Pledge Union, who was detained by immigration authorities at Ellis Island for two weeks on a finding he was an inadmissible alien, was released May 29. He came to the U.S. on a 60-day permit to lecture for the War Resisters League. The Board of Immigration Appeals ruled that there was no evidence the 63-year-old

Quaker spokesman would attempt to seduce troops from their allegiance or that his organization urged resistance to military conscription or illegal avoidance of conscription. Because of his detention, Mr. Morris lost 12 lecture engagements but said that he had been treated courteously. Courtesy of the witch hunt that is.

**AMBASSADOR TO ITALY**, Clare Boothe Luce, declared in Rome 10 days before the election that the Italians had better vote right or suffer the consequences of loss of aid from the United States. The State Department and the Vatican are backing the De Gasperi slate. Mrs. Luce, a prominent Catholic like McCarthy, motivated her opposition to letting the Italians make a free, democratic electoral choice by talking about the "wiles of totalitarianism" to which the Italian people might fall "unhappy victims."

**NEW YORK DOCKERS** can clean up waterfront gangsterism and corrupt union officials by following the example of the fur workers, Francis J. Murnane maintains in the *June Catholic Worker*. The fur workers were confronted with similar conditions, he says. "They had to fight the Lepke mob. They organized fighting squadrons. Whenever the gangsters beat up a union official or perpetrated other acts of violence, a signal was sounded in the fur district and fur workers came pouring out of the shops, converged on the trouble area, and DEFEATED the gangsters. Take a gun away from a gangster and inevitably he is a craven coward. The fur workers cleaned up the industry and built a powerful union."

**IRVING FERNAN**, Washington Director of the American Civil Liberties Union expressed his organization's opposition to all wiretapping in testimony before a Congressional committee. However, he cancelled out this position by saying that "if" national security "requires" the legalization of wiretapping then it should be used only in cases involving "treason, sabotage, espionage, kidnapping, or threatened kidnapping." In McCarthy's dictionary militant union activities, including strikes, comes within the meaning of "sabotage" and anyone who thinks differently from the Wisconsin senator can be considered committing "treason."

**AN AVOWED ATHEIST** won citizenship papers when a federal Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a lower court decision that an atheist cannot be granted citizenship. The case involved Wladyslaw Plywacki, a former citizen of Poland and inmate of Nazi concentration camps. A judge in Hawaii refused him citizenship on the grounds he could not take the required oath since he did not believe in any deities. The San Francisco Court of Appeals stated that it was legal enough if an alien simply affirmed his loyalty to the U.S.

## SUBWAY FARE STEAL PUT OVER IN NEW YORK

By David Stevens

By an 11 to 5 vote of the Board of Estimate on June 1, New York City's \$1,700,000,000 transit system was leased to a five-man Transit Authority empowered to jack up fares to 15 cents. This will be the second fare increase since the traditional five-cent fare was raised to 10 cents in 1948. For the average New York family the two fare increases spell about a \$200 yearly boost in the cost of living.

Without a public hearing, and basing themselves on the 1948 legislation under the old corrupt O'Dwyer administration which repealed the law requiring the consent of the people for any fare rise, the city administration rammed through this decision under cover of lame excuses and blame-shifting.

By giving the power to raise the fare to the newly created Transit Authority the city fathers sought to conceal their own guilt. They threatened that unless the Transit Authority was accepted they would be forced to slash public services by \$97,000,000 to balance the city budget. They pleaded that the Transit Authority is part of a package that will enable them to place additional taxes on real estate. Mayor Impellitteri pointed his finger at Albany, whining that the Transit Authority "was forced upon us by Governor Dewey."

No sooner was the Transit Authority established than it announced its hired engineers are certain that the transit coin-collecting machines can be adjusted for a higher fare by the deadline date of July 30. In the meanwhile the Authority, anxious

to do a good job, is applying to the United States Mint at Philadelphia for an emergency supply of tokens for more immediate use.

Where will the new millions of dollars, milked from the people by turnstile robbery go? The fare increase is being demanded to make up for a prospective transit operating deficit of \$47,000,000 yearly. This deficit, however, could be turned into a net profit if it were not for what is termed "servicing the debt."

Each year the city turns over to a group of Wall Street sharks the "normal" payment of interest of \$72,800,000. For the year 1953-54 interest will have risen to \$114,900,000. These enormous sums are sheer tribute to big money interests that over the last 60 years have realized their initial investment in the transit system many times over. A moratorium on the debt would stop the daily steal from the people and help solve the city's financial problem.

But this solution requires a city labor administration instead of the present Wall Street administration.

The new Transit Authority shows its true class face in its refusal to meet with the heads of the Transport Workers Union "at this time." It is too busy with the pressing problem of adjusting the coin-collecting machines.

## Beat Jim Crow



**PRES. RUFUS E. CLEMENT** of Atlanta University is the first Negro elected to the Atlanta, Georgia, Board of Education. In the recent election, Clement defeated his white opponent by a vote of 22,142 to 13,800. Two other Atlanta Negro leaders won in primaries assuring victory. In North Carolina last month, five Negroes won in local elections. Growing militancy of Negroes in the South is responsible for these gains.

## Students Report On L.A. Forum To College Class

By Ernest Rief

**LOS ANGELES, May 30** — Two students from the University of Southern California have given a report in their senior class in modern political thought on last week's Friday Night Forum, which features Marxist lecturers. Their fellow-students and the professor were quite interested in hearing a Trotskyist analysis of developments in the Soviet Union, as these were not covered in class.

Their report was followed by questions and discussion in which one student said he had really enjoyed his first visit to the Forum. He had asked the speaker, Milton Alvin, how and when world revolution would occur and had been answered: "You are living in one now." The class thought this amusing and the professor said: "Yes, the Trotskyists talk about world revolution, but did he have any evidence, any facts?"

The other student answered: "Yes, almost all of Asia is in revolution, likewise the Middle East and Africa, and it's beginning in South America."

These students are among a growing number of interested people who are being attracted to the Friday Night Forum series here on "Soviet Russia after Stalin's Death." At the second lecture of the series, an attentive audience last night heard Milton Alvin discuss the internal causes for the present problems of the Soviet Union.

The stormy growth of Soviet economy shows the new nationalized property forms to be more powerful than expected, but the lack of economic coordination due to the mismanagement and parasitism of the bureaucracy has left living standards low and created dissatisfaction, said Alvin. This and the increasing social weight of the workers are primary causes of the crisis facing the regime.

Many questions were asked and answered. After the meeting informal discussion took place around the refreshment table.

The forums are held weekly at 1702 E. 4th St., beginning at 8 P. M.

## British Laborites Map Program

The British Labor Party has mapped out a program of "drastic Socialist measures" for its campaign in the next general elections, the party secretary Morgan Phillips said on June 3 in London. No general election, however, has been called although left laborites headed by Aneurin Bevan are demanding one.

## THE ROAD TO PEACE

by James P. Cannon

Single Copy 25c

5 Copies \$1.00

(Postage included)

Order from

PIONEER PUBLISHERS

116 University Place

New York 3, N. Y.

## Raid on Jobless Fund Approved By Ohio Senate

By L. Cooper

**AKRON, May 31** — Labor in Ohio was stunned last week as the State Senate in Columbus passed bills 173 and 174, raiding the unemployment insurance funds and forcing an unemployed worker to accept any job offered him by the unemployment office. The men in the shops here are particularly indignant at the slave-labor provisions of bill 174, which compels an unemployed worker to "investigate any referral" to a job or forfeit benefits. The present law states that the unemployed worker must accept "suitable work." This has given some leeway in avoiding the lowest-paid sweatshop jobs offered them by the unemployment office.

### HAND-OUT TO BOSSES

Bill 173 cuts in half the annual contributions of Ohio employers to the state unemployment fund. This fund now has \$650 million in it of which \$120 million is accrued interest. Under the proposed bill, this interest would be credited to the present 85,000 Ohio employers as advance payments to the unemployment insurance fund and they would henceforth pay only 57 cents per \$100 payroll instead of their present payments of \$1.04 per \$100 payroll. The State of Ohio would take in only \$40 million per year instead of the present \$80 million.

The chief beneficiaries of this bonanza would be five Ohio employers who would be credited with close to 50% of this \$120 million. These "hardship" cases are Goodyear, General Motors, Youngstown Sheet and Tube, Republic Steel and U.S. Steel. The bill was openly sponsored by the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and, of course, its puppets.

(legislators) responded quickly and obediently.

Governor Lausche, a Democrat, has spoken out against state senate bill 173, warning of the absence of funds in case of a major depression. To date he has made no statement about the slave-labor provisions of senate bill 174. Also, he is still "reflecting," he says, as to whether the proviso in bill 174 granting a \$2 weekly increase in benefits "would be adequate." This in face of the fact that organized labor has severely condemned such a pittance increase!

### LABOR CONFERENCE

Labor cannot rely on the Governor even though he may at times wax eloquent against the Chamber of Commerce crowd.

First, organized labor must have regular representatives at the unemployment offices to defend the rights of all workers. Secondly, labor must call a great rank and file state conference to plan the fight against bills 173 and 174 and the so-called anti-subversive bills being sponsored in the Legislature, primarily the Devine bill 308, which would institute a police state against free thought and militant labor in Ohio. The latter bills are also condemned by the state CIO.

An Ohio Conference of Labor in Columbus to stay the hand of Big Business could initiate great public actions and demonstrations and plan a state labor party as an answer to corporations which are now planning to raid the treasury and enslave labor.

## Demand Witch-Burners Halt Legal Murder of Rosenbergs

(Continued from page 1)

promised to produce at the trial later spoke out against both verdict and "evidence."

The unprecedented eagerness of the government to push through a hasty execution reflects the weakness of the case. Since sentence was passed the Appellate Court has expressed the opinion that the defendants should have a new trial, but found itself unable to order one on the legal grounds offered. The Supreme Court has never yet reviewed the evidence. Despite this, Supreme Court Chief Justice Vinson refused a stay of execution.

### BARBARIC OFFER

In the meantime, the Justice Department is going through a series of barbaric maneuvers with the Rosenbergs which cannot fail to arouse horror and indignation against the government and compassion for the Rosenbergs. Through prison director James V. Bennett, Ethel and Julius Rosenberg are being offered their lives in exchange for testimony against others.

The Rosenbergs have answered: "We will not help purge the foul record of a fraudulent conviction and barbaric sentence. We solemnly declare now and forever that we will not be coerced even under pain of death to bear false witness and to yield up our rights as free Americans."

"If we are executed it will be murder of innocent people and the shame will be on the government of the United States. History will record, whether we live or die, that we were the victims of one of the most monstrous frame-ups in our country's history."

This courageous stand under the most terrible circumstances

cannot fail to arouse admiration for the Rosenbergs and contempt for those low people who have hastened to turn stool-pigeon for the witch hunters when threatened only with loss of employment.

### STOP THE EXECUTION!

The Rosenberg case has become a major political case in the fight to defend the democratic rights of the American people. All the accused who have been found guilty of espionage during the past several years have received nothing more than jail terms, despite the fact that in each case the evidence presented was far stronger than the inconclusive and patched-together case against the Rosenbergs. The difference in the Rosenberg case is that, in this instance alone, the government tried to link the defendants to the Communist Party. Thus the death verdict is intended primarily as political intimidation. It is the high-point of bestiality in the witch hunt.

The Rosenbergs, must be saved! A great wave of public protest can save them and turn back the witch hunters. It is not yet too late. Rally to defend the Rosenbergs! Send your protests to Eisenhower. Join the clemency meetings in your city.

## CHICAGO Socialist Forum

"Labor's Answer to McCarthyism"

Speaker:

Marjorie Ball

Followed by

Spring Barn Dance

Sat., June 13, 8:30 P.M.

SWP Hall

734 So. Wabash

## LOS ANGELES Friday Night Forum

presents

A Series of Four Lectures

Stalinism and the USSR

Lecture 4:

"Future of Soviet Union and Stalinism"

Speaker:

Milton Alvin

Fri., June 12, 8 P.M.

FORUM HALL

1702 E. 4th St. Tel. AN 9-4953

Questions — Discussion Refreshments