

UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS HIGHEST SINCE '45

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Build a Labor Party Now!

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Weiss Starts National Speaking Tour on McCarthyite Fascism

The Socialist Workers Party campaign to alert the labor movement against the fascist danger of McCarthyism will be stepped up Feb. 5 when Murry Weiss, one of the outstanding speakers in the socialist movement, will begin a three-month coast-to-coast lecture tour. His first speech will be given that night in Newark at 8:30 P.M. under the auspices of the Friday Night Socialist Forum, 52 Market St.

Murry Weiss is already well known to readers of the Militant for his penetrating analysis of McCarthyism and the current American political scene. Now 38 years old, he has been active in working class political organizations as organizer, lecturer and writer since his early teens.

In 1932 he was expelled from the Young Communist League for his opposition to the Stalinist policies that permitted Hitler to come to power in Germany a year later. Since then he has worked energetically to build a new workers party based on the scientific program of Marxism. After World War II he took the lead in formulating the policy that helped smash Gerald L. K. Smith's efforts to build a mass fascist movement. He is now a member of the National Com-

mittee of the Socialist Workers Party.

The general subject of his tour will be "McCarthyism: What It Is and How to Fight It." Among the topics dealt with will be the following: McCarthyism — the American brand of fascism; can Eisenhower stop McCarthy?; why were the German, Italian and Spanish workers defeated by fascism — lessons for American labor; the Democratic Party and the labor movement in the 1954 elections; an analysis of the liberal, official labor, Stalinist and Social-Democratic programs against McCarthyism; the threat of depression and the effect it will have on the development of McCarthyism on one side and on the radicalization of the working class on the other; McCarthyism and the threat of World War III; the SWP program against McCarthyism.

After speaking in Newark, Weiss will be heard in Philadelphia at the Militant Labor Hall, 1303 W. Girard Ave., on Sunday, Feb. 7, at 8:30 P.M. There will be question-and-answer periods after each speech on the tour in which the audience will have ample opportunity to participate in discussion of the problems of McCarthyism and the struggle against it.

Skoglund Wins Deportation Stay

NEW YORK, Jan. 27 — Deportation of Carl Skoglund, a victim of the unconstitutional McCarran Law, was halted only a few days before Jan. 26, the date set by the Immigration authorities in ordering the Minnesota labor leader to report to Ellis Island. Skoglund had been informed by the Swedish Consulate that the American officials had notified them he was to be placed aboard a Norwegian ship for deportation to Sweden on Jan. 28, two days after he had entered Ellis Island.

The speed with which the Immigration officials moved against him removed any possible illusions about the grim threat facing this working class fighter, who has been in this country for 43 years and who, this month, reached his 70th birthday. But the blitz deportation was blocked through the strenuous efforts of Skoglund's counsel, Stanley Lowell, of the Alien Civil Rights Committee of the American Civil Liberties Union.

He was scheduled for deportation on the grounds of his former membership in the Communist Party during the Twenties, despite the fact that he was expelled from that party in 1928, and has long been known as an uncompromising opponent of Stalinism. The real reason for the long persecution of Skoglund is his adherence to the principles of union solidarity and socialism. He was imprisoned for his socialist ideas in 1944 under the thought-control Smith Act after he had indignantly spurned an FBI proposal that he turn informer against his colleagues in the labor movement.

The McCarran Law, under which he is now being persecuted through deportation proceedings has been condemned as unconstitutional and undemocratic by almost all liberal and labor opinion.

Skoglund has been suffering from a severe cardiac condition, and a hearing had been requested to present evidence that he was eligible for discretionary relief, which the authorities have the legal power to grant him, and thus end the threat of deportation. On Feb. 3, 1953, the Board of Immigration Appeals had ignored the appeal for relief and upheld the deportation order.

After vigorous intervention by Skoglund's attorney, the Board of Immigration Appeals on Jan. 15 issued a new order that the deportation warrant be withdrawn and a hearing be held to permit presentation of evidence on the question of Skoglund's eligibility for discretionary relief that would suspend the deportation proceedings.

The Civil Rights Defense Committee, which has been carrying on the prolonged fight to save Skoglund from deportation, needs



CARL SKOGLUND

What Negro People Can Expect

By George Breitman

Anybody who had any last lingering doubts about what the Negro people could expect from the Eisenhower administration and the present Congress should have had them cleared up in January. Two events during the month made it perfectly clear that they can expect nothing — which is just what they got from the Truman administration and the Democratic-controlled Congresses.

The first of these events was Eisenhower's complete omission of any proposals on civil rights from the long list he offered for legislation by Congress. This omission was all the more significant because, as everyone knows, there is no chance in the world of Congress enacting all the laws suggested by Eisenhower. Many of his proposals were included only for the record, for their future vote-getting value, so that Eisenhower can claim he supported them even if they didn't pass.

NOT EVEN PRETENSE

But when it comes to anti-Jim Crow legislation, Eisenhower doesn't even bother to make a pretense of proposing any. The Dixiecrats have no reason to be sorry that they helped elect Eisenhower. He is paying off on their

30-Hour Week, 40-Hour Pay Pushed by Ford Local 600

Defiance of Witch Hunt Urged by Detroit Union

DETROIT, Jan. 23 — Sentiment is growing among CIO auto workers here for open resistance to the threatened second invasion of this city by the anti-labor House Un-American Activities Committee, headed by notorious witch-hunter Rep. Velde. Velde follows closely the methods of Sen. McCarthy. A subcommittee of the House body, led by Rep. Clardy (R. Mich.), a mouthpiece of the auto corporations, is scheduled to return on Feb. 22 for a further inquisition and smear of auto unionists.

The latest resolution expressing hostility and defiance of the forthcoming "probe" was adopted by the executive board of CIO United Automobile Workers Local 742, representing 3,200 workers of the Briggs Motor plant of Chrysler corporation. This resolution is patterned on ones already adopted by Ford Local 600 here and GM Local 659 in Flint, where the House union-haters are also scheduled to appear.

Local 742's resolution states that the board and membership of the local "will not in any way cooperate with this undemocratic committee" and calls on its membership and the UAW International Executive Board "to oppose the Un-American Activities Committee coming into Detroit, Flint and Lansing." It offers "every aid possible, including financial aid for legal defense of any member who is dragged before the Committee."

The House smear committee is anxious to do a big job of intimidation and victimization in Detroit, as it did in 1952 when it had the cooperation of Walter Reuther, CIO and UAW President. Velde wants to recoup the prestige he lost in San Francisco recently when he had to beat a retreat and halt his hearings ahead of time before the protest strike action of the Longshoremen.

Velde thinks he has a pushover in Michigan because, when his committee came to Detroit in Feb. 1952 and launched an attack on Ford Local 600, Reuther treacherously joined the witch-hunt assault on the country's largest union local and its leaders who opposed his union policies. A Reutherite international representative appeared as a stool pigeon and "friendly" witness before the House hearings in

March 1952. Immediately following the witch-burners' attack on Ford Local 600, Reuther placed an administrator-dictator over the big local and sought to oust the leadership who opposed his reactionary policies. The Ford membership, however, rallied behind their elected leaders and defeated Reuther's dirty scheme.

Of course, if Reuther gave the word now to the auto workers to come out in open demonstration against the new hearings, the way the West Coast longshoremen did, the workers would send

Velde's agent Clardy scuttling to cover in record time. Even if a few big locals like Ford 600, with 55,000 members, put up a militant mass opposition, they could turn the inquisitors' invasion into a rout.

This would inspire similar resistance everywhere that Velde and McCarthy, the master fascist union-buster, try to wage war on labor. Faced with the prospect of giant labor demonstrations and strikes if he shows his face in any industrial town, McCarthy himself would speedily turn tail.

L.A. Unions Warned McCarthy Plans Visit

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 25 — Aroused by the announcement that fascist Senator McCarthy is to be a guest-speaker here at a meeting sponsored by "local hatemonger"

Dr. James Fiffeld, CIO United Auto Workers Local 216 is urging all sections of the Los Angeles labor movement to "take the initiative to convene a broad conference of labor, civil liberties and minority organizations to devise ways and means of combating the growing fascist menace."

Copies of 216's resolution are being sent to the Los Angeles CIO Industrial Union Council, AFL Central Labor Council, Railroad Brotherhoods and all civil liberties, minority and pro-labor organizations in this area.

Local 216 warns of "a nationwide assault on civil liberties and democratic rights, spearheaded by the McCarthyite gang." Organized labor, it emphasizes, "is the ultimate target of the unbridled witch hunt now raging in this country."

It points to the attacks by Congressional smear groups on "such unions as Ford Local 600 and more recently the San Francisco longshoremen" as "underscoring the danger to the entire union movement."

The McCarthyites are "now in the process of gathering all the hate-mongers, white supremacists, anti-Semites and union-busters together in a budding fascist movement aimed at victimizing minority groups, crucifying political dissenters and destroying labor unions," states resolution.

It asks the organized labor movement "to take note of the growing threat of McCarthyite fascism and what it means to all workers and minority peoples" and "to take steps to safeguard the rights of labor, minority groups and the basic civil liberties of the people as set forth in the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights."

The resolution reports that McCarthy is scheduled to "speak at a meeting where attendance will be by invitation only, thus duplicating the method of Gerald L. K. Smith and other well-known fascist demagogues."

The Los Angeles labor movement several times gave hot receptions, with mass demonstrations and picket lines, to fascist anti-Semite Smith when he tried to hold open mobilizations in this city in 1945 and 1946 with the avowed purpose of fighting the unions. Smith subsequently called into meetings by invitation to prevent anyone unfriendly getting into his gatherings and exposing his aims.

Dr. Fiffeld, a "MacArthur for President" man in 1952, has a regular radio program on which he spouts the McCarthy line. He has organized a number of "Freedom Clubs" to help McCarthy's bid for fascist dictatorship. McCarthy will be a "Freedom Clubs" guest on Feb. 9.

McCarthy Foe Roughed Up



Nathaniel Mills, suspended General Electric worker, shown as he is being manhandled and forcibly ejected from the Boston acquisition of GE workers held by fascist Sen. McCarthy. Mills had charged: "McCarthy, I accuse you of conspiring with the company and getting the jobs of General Electric people." (See story on Page 4).

Tells Labor Now Is the Time to Act

DETROIT, Jan. 25 — "Now is the time to fight for a 30-hour week with 40 hours' pay." This is the answer to mass unemployment advocated by the world's largest union local, Ford Local 600 of the CIO United Automobile Workers.

Referring to UAW and CIO President Walter Reuther's recent statement that "a recession has set in," the Jan. 23 issue of Local 600's hard-hitting paper, Ford Facts, calls on the UAW and entire labor movement to fight for the shorter work-week with no cut in take-home pay.

"The need for a united drive, by all of the UAW-CIO and by all of labor for a 30-hour week with 40 hours' pay becomes more obvious by the minute," declares Ford Facts, in its big front-page spread giving the latest data on the growing depression threat.

CALLS ROLL OF LAYOFFS

"Automation and technological improvements in the auto industry, coupled with the Hoover, Ford, Eisenhower-Republicanism in Washington, have caused mass unemployment of near depression proportions in the last few months," the Ford 600 leaders say in their appeal for action.

As of Jan. 1, Ford Facts reports, layoffs in the auto and farm equipment industries include: Chrysler corporation, 40,000; Nash, 10,000; Packard, 7,900; Studebaker, 9,000, "with those still employed on a 32-hour week without 40 hours' pay." International Harvester, 24,000; J. I. Case and John Deere, 27,449.

Ford Facts also calls the roll of production cutbacks and layoffs in other major industries: steel, electrical equipment, textile, aircraft, oil, maritime, furniture and railroads. In view of the ominous spread of unemployment, Ford Facts points out: "We in Local 600 know that as surely as night follows day, we at Ford cannot be isolated from the impact of unemployment. Ford has already discontinued overtime and it will be a matter of time before layoffs begin."

REUTHER'S PROPOSAL

Economic developments have confirmed the Ford workers in the correctness of their campaign for the 30-hour week at 40 hours' pay launched before the UAW Conference on Unemployment held in Washington last month. At that conference, Reuther pushed the shorter work-week demand into the background. Since then, his major activity on the unemployment issue has been letters to Eisenhower, pleading with the Republican banner-bearer to call a conference of employers, labor and government big-wigs to talk over the unemployment situation.

Ford Facts intimates that Reuther's type of conference would be worthless, stating that "we cannot look to the politicians . . . who gave birth to the infamous Taft-Hartley Bill to fight our battles. The Republican Party of Hoover, McCarthy and the Generals — General Eisenhower, General Motors and General Electric — certainly are to be placed in the camp of the enemies of labor."

LABOR CONFERENCE

The calling of a national conference on unemployment and the problems of labor is the responsibility of the CIO. Ford Facts indicates. In the Local 600 program, featured back in the Nov. 21 issue of Ford Facts, the proposal was made for a National Conference of All Labor to organize the fight. This is a great idea and should be pushed now by Local 600 and other forward-looking union locals.

ROBERTS PLEDGES FIGHT AGAINST M'CARATHYISM

SEATTLE, Jan. 23 — Daniel Roberts, chairman of the Socialist Workers Party here, this week filed his candidacy for the School Board in the March 9th elections.

Roberts, whose candidacy is endorsed by the SWP, is 36 years old, a boxmaker and a member of Boxmakers Local 2635, AFL.

Outlining his two-point program today, Roberts said: "First, I am running as the anti-McCarthy candidate in the school board election, for McCarthyism is American fascism on the march. I maintain that the real menace confronting the working people of America is not communism, but fascism — the most horrible form of the rule of Big Business."

"Consequently, the first plank in my program is to call on the labor movement to fight McCarthyism and the witch hunt. Restore free speech and political liberties for all! The schools in particular must be free arenas where the youth can arrive at the truth through free discussion."

"In line with this, I pledge, if elected, to do everything in my power to restore Mrs. Hildur Josephine Hughes to her teaching post in the Seattle schools, from which she was ousted because of her alleged political views."

"The young people of this country are in rebellion against their future as they see it now, and they have every right to be. They see ahead of them only war or depression. In addition, the Negro youth see no end to the frustration and despair born of these prospects, more and more young people are turning into the blind alley of juvenile delinquency which is a path of self-destruction."

"Labor must show the youth the way out! A bold policy of social change initiated by the unions can bring out the teen-agers' rich store of idealism, give their revolt a positive and constructive expression and tie them solidly to labor's side in its coming showdown struggles with the employers."

"As the second point in my program, therefore, I urge the unions to break all ties with the parties of Big Business — Republican and Democratic alike — and take immediate steps to form a Labor Party that will achieve the following: (1) The 30-hour



DANIEL ROBERTS

(Continued on page 3)

Jobless Claims Highest Since '45

By Art Preis

The largest number of new unemployment compensation claims listed in any week since August 1945, when World War II ended, were filed in the week ended Jan. 9. The U.S. Department of Labor has revealed the latest weekly figure totals 467,500. This is 43,500 more than the largest single weekly total of new applications during the 1949-50 recession, when admitted unemployment rose to more than 4,600,000.

This current terrific leap of nearly a half million new claims within seven days gives a picture of the true menace of unemployment today. According to the Jan. 23 U.S. News and World Report, the total number of those drawing unemployment benefits on Jan. 9 were 1,950,000. This is a far higher total than back in early 1950 when the total of unemployed soared to over 4,600,000.

Unemployment has "apparently jumped to nearly 2,500,000" from the government's claim of only 1,162,000 unemployed in Oct. 1953 and 1,850,000 last Dec. 12, the U.S. News reports. Thus, from Dec. 12, 1953, to Jan. 9, 1954, the number of unemployed leaped by at least 650,000.

The figure of 2,500,000 unemployed, however, is based on unemployment compensation claims filed only for those eligible among the 36,000,000 persons covered by the present compensation law. Almost 25,000,000 wage earners are not covered, including farm workers and persons in firms employing less than four persons. It is clear that the number of unemployed in the United States is not less than four million.

Factory production has fallen more than 7% since the May 1953 peak. Carloadings, always a sensitive barometer of both production and distribution, on Jan. 9 were running 8% below the year before.

In the past couple of weeks, the capitalist witch-doctors have been increasing their incantations, designed to make the economic slump appear as a mere short dip in the long and level highway of economic progress.

The biggest publicity has been given to the recent speech of Harlow M. Curtice, who replaced Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson as president of General Motors. The capitalists are reported as "cheered" by Curtice's announcement that GM plans to place "a billion-dollar bet" against a depression or a "billion-dollar vote of confidence" in the future of American capitalism. This refers to GM's promised two-year expansion plan.

But Happy Days Aren't Here Again

Newspapers ran pictures of Curtice, GM's board chairman Alfred P. Sloan Jr., and Charles E. Wilson guffawing so hard at a Waldorf-Astoria banquet their upper plates showed.

But other sections of the auto industry aren't singing "Happy Days Are Here Again." Curtice's "bet" against a depression is actually a declaration of merciless war against GM's faltering competitors, who have been laying off auto workers by the tens of thousands.

As the Wall Street Journal of Jan. 20 and 21 explained, Curtice was actually predicting there will be no depression just for GM. He calculated, however, that total auto and truck production of all companies combined this year will fall 10% below the 1953 figure. A 10% drop in general production for the entire country would mean a severe depression with eight to ten million jobless.

"GM has set its sights on capturing an additional 2% of the nation's overall market for passenger cars and trucks this year," the Wall Street Journal states. The company grabbed 46% of the total new auto business last year, a gain over 1952 of 4%. Everything is supposed to be rosy if GM crushes its competitors and drives their workers into the unemployment compensation lines for average payments of \$23 a week for 8 to 26 weeks.

The head of one of these competitors, Paul G. Hoffman, chairman of the board of Studebaker Corporation, tried to sound the same cheery note as Curtice. He too found "a very definite upturn of confidence, partly as a result of the President's message... and partly as a result of forward planning on the part of business..." Hoffman's own "forward planning" and "upturn of confidence" is so far reflected in layoffs of nearly half the Studebaker workers.

Meanwhile, the steel industry is finding the first-quarter business "disappointing," according to the current issue of Iron Age, published on Jan. 20. "Big things were expected" of "both" the auto and railroad industries, but "after a fast start railroad buying slowed to a snail's pace" and except for GM and Ford, the auto manufacturers have been setting a "moderate" pace and "living off their inventories."

A couple of days after Curtice's "cheering" speech, such industrial giants as Westinghouse Electric, General Electric, Aluminum Corporation of America and Bethlehem Steel showed such a "very definite upturn in confidence" that they announced further mass layoffs.

The threatening economic trend has evoked not only big statistical lies from Washington. It is bringing forth a more sinister political note. This was sounded in the speech on Jan. 23 by Joseph W. Martin Jr., Republican Speaker of the House, to a banquet of the Philadelphia Real Estate Board.

Martin heaped McCarthyite vituperation on those who dare to warn the country of the danger of depression. Anybody who talks of such a possibility, according to Martin, is a "left-wing egghead" who is "trying to promote us into hard times" and "to lead us into socialism."

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The Fascist Challenge to Labor

(The following is the text of a speech given by Farrell Dobbs, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, in Detroit, Jan. 10.)

Titanic political struggles that will mark a qualitative leap forward by the workers of America are bound to arise from the social pressures now building up. People are plagued by all the heavy costs, worries, anxieties and fears of the war program. They are plagued by the witch hunt, with its attempts to suppress free thought and strangle free speech. And now the country has been told by a national gathering of eminent economists that we are heading into what they call an "orthodox recession." They mean by this that it is natural for the working people to suffer all the hardships of depression and unemployment in order to shake down the economy, weaken the labor movement, increase the labor pool, and generally put Big Business in a better position to exploit the working man. We already see signs of that "orthodox recession" right here in Detroit where over 100,000 workers have been laid off.

That's why the working people instinctively respond to a slogan like that raised by Local 600 of the UAW here in Detroit — "Fight for a 30-hour work week at 40 hours pay in order to protect take-home pay and cushion the shocks of unemployment." Another threat facing the workers is the preparation by Big Business to take advantage of a

recession to strike some blows at the labor movement. The National Association of Manufacturers wants the Taft-Hartley act amended to outlaw strikes for union recognition. They want what they call a "right to work" clause that would reinstate the hated "Yellow Dog" contract.

We're not the only ones to see these ominous signs of what's being prepared for labor and understand their meaning. That's made evident by the reappearance here in Detroit, after 14 years of political silence, of the well-known fascist demagogue, Father Charles E. Coughlin.

He made a speech here in Detroit Dec. 5 at the Little Friday Club that coincides completely with the growing menace of fascism in this country as represented by McCarthyism. In this speech Coughlin advanced a demagogic program based on the depression danger.

He came forward with these propositions: a guaranteed annual wage, tax reductions for the production workers, trade with China and India. Now in themselves these demands are OK. As a matter of fact, they are more or less popular among the auto workers in Detroit.

But right here is where one of the most basic criteria of politics comes into play, which is that it's a fatal error in politics to overlook who is making a proposition and why he is making it. Hitler, you know, started with demagoguery in Germany that purported to represent a program good for the working people and he wound up smashing the unions.

No Johnny-Come-Lately

Coughlin tried the same trick back in the Thirties. When we deal with Coughlin we must remember that he's not a Johnny-come-lately on the American political scene like McCarthy. We're dealing with a fascist demagogue who left footprints all over the lot back in the Thirties. Let's track him down now and see what kind of a political shyster he is.

Coughlin entered politics as an obscure commentator on the Detroit radio back in 1926. It wasn't until three years later, when the market crashed and the depression began that Coughlin zoomed into the national spotlight. The vehicle he employed for that was a general attack on what he called "communism."

He quickly built up a national radio network of 48 major stations. He launched an extensively printed magazine called Social Justice. It had no advertising yet it sold for only a dime. Obviously he was getting big money from unrevealed sources.

His program at that stage when the depression was first unfolding, was strikingly similar to the line he took in his recent speech. He calls now for a guaranteed annual wage. He spoke then for what he called a just annual living wage. He calls now for tax reductions for production workers. He spoke then for tax reductions for the workers. He said in the early Thirties that he placed human rights over property rights. All of this was designed to catch the support of depression victims. But it was not his real program. His subsequent actions proved that to the hilt.

In 1934 Coughlin launched an organization called the National Union for Social Justice. He made himself the supreme dictator of this organization and strictly forbade political discussion at the

unit meetings. By the time of the presidential campaign in 1936, Coughlin was openly saying over the radio and in his magazine, "Democracy is doomed; I take the road to fascism." In that presidential election he supported William Lemke, a fascist candidate. Coughlin was beginning to bring forward now his real program. In contrast to his earlier statement that he put human rights over property rights, his platform in Social Justice by the mid Thirties made one of his cardinal points the preservation of property rights and he meant as against human rights.

Like Hitler, Coughlin selected the Jews for a scapegoat. About 5% of the Jews in America he described as religious and those, he said, were all right. The other 95% he denounced as "communists," "socialists," "atheists," "international bankers," and "dealers in gold."

Coughlin manifested anti-Negro policies as well as Jew-baiting. In April 1936 he defended Mussolini's invasion of Ethiopia on the theory of the superiority of the white race. In his magazine Social Justice of March 13, 1939, he came out in flat opposition to anti-lynch legislation.

Coughlin was denounced repeatedly by the organized labor movement, and with cause. His magazine to begin with was printed in a non-union shop. He built his Shrine of the Little Flower at Royal Oak with scab labor. He was condemned by unanimous vote of the 1934 convention of the AFL as being anti-union. He replied by coming out with the demand that the AFL be dissolved and the U.S. Department of Labor take over its function that is supposed to be filled by the unions. He attacked the CIO venomously, right from its inception.

Calls Union Officials "Bolsheviks"

In 1937 he publicly opposed the strike of the GM workers. He blamed the steel workers for the Memorial Day massacre in Chicago in 1937 and he approved the use of the National Guard against the coal miners in Harlan County, Kentucky. In 1939 Coughlin sought to organize a general anti-labor demonstration of the fascist scum that had gathered around him in the city of New York. He renounced in his magazine Social Justice that all the union officials are "Bolsheviks" and he said, "We will fight you in Franco's way." His reference was to the fascist butcher of Spain.

The Socialist Workers Party took the initiative in rallying the working people of New York against Coughlin and the response forced him to call off his intended anti-labor demonstration. Not long after that Coughlin lapsed into the political silence that he maintained for 14 years up until the fifth of last December.

That silence was imposed on him by the hierarchy of the Catholic Church. Not because he was a fascist. The Catholic church openly supports Franco in Spain, who is a fascist. Coughlin was temporarily silenced because the tide here in America at that political juncture was beginning to run too heavily against the native fascist movement and because Coughlin had gotten so far ahead

of the times in his attacks on the CIO that he was becoming a great embarrassment to the church.

The main question before us today is: What brings Coughlin into the open today after 14 years of silence and with the approval of the Catholic hierarchy, who know full well that he remains a fascist demagogue?

Coughlin has been brought back into the open by the signs of a resurgent fascist movement in America which is incubating in the favorable atmosphere of the cold war and the witch hunt that was launched back in 1947 by Harry Truman and the Democratic party.

For over six years now our country has faced the scourge of a subversive list and a loyalty purge. There have been wholesale firings of government employees, the smashing of careers of professional people, smear attacks on clergymen, and branding of inter-racial groups as "subversive." There has been a general paralysis of critical thought in the schools of America, firing and blacklisting of workers in industry. Hated stool pigeons and paid police informers are made public heroes by the press and by officials of government.

Here in Michigan you have had the Trucks Law imposed upon you, a law that seeks to suppress freedom of thought on a state basis and makes a direct attack



FARRELL DOBBS

on the unions through a catch-all "sabotage" clause.

Up to now they have been content to just ignore the Bill of Rights and go ahead with their witch hunt. Now they are preparing an attack on the Bill of Rights itself by introducing a measure in Congress calculated to tear the guts out of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution. And in his State of the Union speech, Eisenhower advocated that anyone who is hereafter convicted under that thought-control law known as the Smith Act should lose his citizenship. All of this comes under the heading of an attack against "communism."

Now what do these reactionaries really mean when they speak of "communism"? They mean militant unionism. They mean racial equality. They mean opposition to war. They mean any political action, or even thought, that cuts across their war policy.

What do they mean when they demand "loyalty"? They mean blind obedience to the government. They mean blind obedience to the military brass hats. And for the workers they mean sheeplike obedience to the corporations.

The Menace of Fascism

To combat the labor movement in this manner, capitalism must find a mass counter-force. This force they seek to create mainly from the ranks of the middle class; that is, the farmers, professional people, small business people, etc. They try also to recruit forces from the military ranks and even among demoralized elements of the working class.

Fascism is not so easy to recognize in its formative stages, but let us examine the evidence as it exists today and see what we find. First, look at the political zigzags that have been taken by the middle class across the period from 1945, as a result of labor's failure to lead politically.

During the 1945-46 strike wave the workers got strong support from the middle class. But labor didn't follow through politically. Instead, Big Business was able to put over a national policy that stole money from the pockets of the middle class and the workers. The disoriented middle class swung to the right and voted Republican in 1946. The Republicans took control of Congress and labor got the Taft-Hartley act tied around its neck.

Then in the 1948 elections, Truman became very demagogic and the middle class swung back to the Democrats. In 1952 the middle class shifted back the other way and became the key force in electing Eisenhower.

Then in the 1953 elections, only a year later, there was enough dissatisfaction developing with Eisenhower in the middle class to lead not to a wholesale Democratic trend, but at least to some significant Republican defeats.

Across this whole period from 1945, labor has quite consistently voted Democrat. What caused the shifts back and forth between Republican and Democratic victories was the shifts in sentiment of the middle class. These zigzags show the political unrest among the middle-class elements and indicates very clearly that if labor

Busy Among the Youth Too

McCarthyism is busy among the youth as well. There is an organization in this country called Students for America. It claims today over 2,500 members in 120 schools and colleges. They publish a costly magazine and brag that they put out about 100,000 pieces of additional literature each month. They don't do that on the dues they collect from college and high school students. They also circulate what they call a handbook on how to identify "subversives." They tell the students to take notes on anything "subversive" in the lectures given by their teachers and to report it to the headquarters of Students for America.

What they are doing is making little stool pigeons out of these

As part and parcel of this deepening witch hunt, a native fascist movement is crystallizing in this country, whose name is McCarthyism. It is rapidly developing in the Republican party and has considerable backing in the Democratic party. It is now in the process of a new leap which began last November, resulting from the setback the Republicans received in the elections.

These are the developments that brought Coughlin, the fascist demagogue, out of his lair; a deep-going witch hunt that is now hitting labor directly; the threat of a depression, for which Coughlin is a journeyman demagogue with a lot of experience; and the beginning of a fascist crystallization around McCarthy.

That brings us down to the question: What's to be done about Coughlin, McCarthy and the fascist menace? To begin with, let us look more deeply into the question of fascism itself. How does it arise? What is its aim? How does it operate?

Fascism is a political phenomenon of capitalism in its death agony. The name originated in Italy at the time of the rise of the movement headed by Mussolini. There have been similar movements in Germany, Spain, and other countries. As capitalism becomes outlived historically it becomes a brake on social progress. It produces a cycle of war and depression, so that the masses are always confronted by one or the other of these grim alternatives, or their virtual synthesis, as is the case today when both dangers are upon us simultaneously.

The masses begin to look for a solution to this crisis and the result is that in country after country a deep-going social crisis develops. This crisis causes the capitalist class to abandon any attempt to rule through democratic forms and to move instead in the direction of civil war against the working class in an attempt to smash all opposition to capitalism by force and violence.

There is a large middle-class response. But the longer labor defaults in giving this political leadership, the greater the danger that dissatisfied elements in the middle class are going to feed the fascist current. That danger is already present today. It helps add to the menace of fascism that is growing in this country.

McCarthyism is now beginning to slant its appeal toward the middle-class grievances. As I pointed out, one of the basic weapons of fascism is social demagoguery. The McCarthy program does not yet represent the full flowering of fascist demagoguery, but there is a start. McCarthy is already tying high prices, high taxes, the casualties in the Korean war, and the expected casualties in future wars to the issue of "spies" and "traitors" in government.

In this he parallels significantly the line that Hitler took, at a similar stage of development, in the rise of German fascism. Hitler argued back in the Twenties that the German defeat in World War I, the suffering of the German people under the Versailles Treaty, resulted from a stab in the back in high places in government. As the depression threat mounts, the McCarthyite demagoguery will become more radical sounding. In fact Coughlin already began in his Dec. 5 speech here to make his own special contribution in this regard.

Another fascist symptom in the development of McCarthyism is the anti-Semitic overtones that appeared in that investigation, that inquisition rather, at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Less than 25% of the whole engineering personnel at Monmouth are Jews. Yet of the 40 persons victimized there by McCarthy, 35 of them, that's 88%, were Jews, and one was a Negro, which is no less symbolical. Incidentally, not a single spy was turned up in the whole inquisition.

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groups are polarizing around McCarthy as a symbol, but they are still separated organizationally because they do not find it expedient to link themselves too closely with McCarthy at present.

These groups consider wide open the question of who is going to be the ultimate leader of American fascism. Also, the more openly a given organization is identified as fascist, the greater the danger that open alliance with McCarthy would expose prematurely the real character of McCarthyism and make it harder to gull people.

Instead of being a party itself, McCarthyism appears as the right wing of both capitalist parties. McCarthy finds it advantageous at present to remain inside the Republican party and to fight

there for leadership. But he has no loyalty to the Republican party. He brazenly disregards its discipline and acts as a man strictly on the make.

In fact, McCarthy is already going outside the Republican party to build support, as is demonstrated by the letter and telegram campaign he sought to organize in his controversy with Eisenhower. Numerous organized elements are polarizing around McCarthyism, although they have not yet made organic unity with it. These include ultra-nationalistic groups like the America Firsters, anti-labor organizations like the American Legion, race-hating gangs like the Ku Klux Klan, proved fascist demagogues like Coughlin and Gerald L. K. Smith.

Lynching, Race Riots, Vigilantism

We see this fascist tendency incubating in the witch hunt with help from the FBI, the Congressional Committees and the daily press. In the same way we can expect fascist acts of violence to grow out of forms with which we are already familiar.

There is the tradition in this country of lynching. This is one form in which the fascists can begin to develop their extralegal acts of violence against the Negro people and against workers. Yet they can try to make it look like an outbreak of something that has gone on for very many years in this country.

There is the instrument for violence known as the race riot that has a long history in this country. Right here in Detroit in 1943 an organized gang with a fascist mentality precipitated a race riot.

Vigilantism is another historical form of terror the fascists can employ. It too has a long tradition in America. The organization of strike-breaking gangs is still another form they can use. We need only recall the anti-labor role the Black Legion played right here in Michigan in 1937 when the UAW was fighting to consolidate itself. All these common forms of organized violence can be used to prepare for open use of fascist storm troopers later on.

How great is the fascist danger that is threatening this country? To find the answer to this question let us summarize briefly the points we have covered. McCarthyism already has a certain mass base in this country and

that base will grow with the mounting crisis in American society. It already has important financial backing and that will grow too. It has revealed an ability to seize the center of the stage and evoke a response. It is already acting as an organized pressure group in national politics going beyond the simple instrumentality of the ballot. It has significant strength in both the Republican and Democratic parties.

The liberals and the labor officials concede the main ground in the fight against McCarthyism when they support the witch hunt out of which McCarthyism is growing. And the workers, upon whom the defeat of the growing fascist menace in this country depends, are misled by the union officials. They are not aroused to the danger. They are not given a correct program to fight against this menace to the working people. Those who, on the other hand, are fully conscious of the fascist menace are still weak in forces and resources.

That is the balance sheet and we must therefore conclude that the danger is not only present but is already grave, graver than it was in 1939. And if labor fails to act, that danger will become graver still.

The present fascist threat developing in this country arises from the failure of the labor leaders to take the road of independent political action. Instead, the union officials remained to the Democratic party and lend support to the fascist-breeding witch hunt.

San Francisco Example

I understand that the Velde Committee is due in Detroit soon to do some witch hunting against the unions. The Detroit unions should follow the example of the San Francisco labor movement in dealing with the Velde gang when it invaded their city.

The longshoremen's union called a 24-hour protest strike against this witch-hunting invasion and organized a mass demonstration in front of the city hall where the Velde Committee was trying to operate. This led to a resolution denouncing the Velde Committee by the East Bay area CIO Council. It inspired every anti-McCarthy element in the city of San Francisco to stand up and protest against Velde's gang with the result that they soon took it on the lam.

Labor must take up the cudgels against the Coughlin's and the McCarthy's, expose their political confidence game, and combat it with a militant labor program. To do that they have to break all ties with the capitalist politicians; end all the witch-hunting in the unions; encourage free political thought among the workers; collectively hammer out a program that will serve the interests of the workers and then organize a Congress of Labor.

A general Congress of representatives from all sectors of the labor movement is needed to launch an independent labor party, which would run its own candidates in 1954, and point to ward creation of a Workers and Farmers government in 1956.

Labor would have the support of the minority peoples if it would take that road. To the minorities, the fascist danger is a matter of life or death. All the race haters are rallying to McCarthyism and they are awaiting an opportunity to unleash their racist hysteria. In America the Negro people, along with the Jews, are going to be the scapegoats of fascism. It is in the nature of things here, with the long, unbroken record of prejudice and discrimination and acts of violence against the Negro people.

People in the minority sectors of the American population have every reason to support the labor movement in political struggle.

Similarly with the youth. What is there for youth today in America? Frustrated by the dead hand of reaction in the schools, when they graduate they are thrust into the armies organized for world conquest. Youth in this country

need, and they want, a social change. A labor movement fighting on the political arena can evoke the support of youth. But a passive labor movement, which gives them no answers to their problems, raises the danger of turning the youth over to the fascist demagogues to be used against labor.

We look at this political situation today in both its negative and positive aspects. The capitalist class in this country is powerful, and it is ruthless, as you well know. A section of it is already preparing a fascist attack on the workers. But the greater fact is that the American working class is infinitely more powerful than the capitalist class; and we of the Socialist Workers Party are absolutely confident that the workers' power can be mobilized against this fascist menace, and in time, if we go to work at it. The problem is to arouse the workers to the danger, convey to them a fighting labor program and help them mobilize for action.

That task requires organized efforts on the part of class-conscious militants in the labor movement. For those of you who are here today who want to help in this task, the first thing I recommend is to join the Socialist Workers Party. Collaborate with us in analyzing the developments of the day, the problems facing labor and in advocating a program that will enable the labor movement to defend its rights.

Help us to arouse the working class of America to smash the fascist threat, create a Workers and Farmers government, and build a Socialist America.

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Employers Roll Up Their Sleeves

With unemployment increasing, employers are preparing a two-pronged assault against the unions. Using the threat of layoffs in hope of paralyzing resistance, they plan a power drive to slash wages. This will be coupled with the even more ambitious project of utilizing the "orthodox recession" to carry out the orthodox capitalist aim of weakening, undermining and eventually smashing the unions.

The handwriting is already on the wall. We cite two recent important cases in point:

Case No. 1 — The textile industry has already opened a wage-cutting drive. Addressing the Passaic County, N. J., CIO convention on Jan. 24, Sol Stetin, International vice president of the Textile Workers of America, reported that the Forstman Woolen Company of Passaic has proposed an 11½ cent an hour wage cut, and that Botany Mills is expected to make a similar "offer" when wage negotiations begin this week.

In response to this, the union membership is closing ranks for a strike that was correctly characterized by Stetin as a "real test for the labor movement in this area."

Case No. 2 — A month ago a band of heroic coal miners in Widen, West Virginia, reluctantly voted to give up a bitterly fought fifteen month strike. "We don't like to admit defeat, but we knew we were beaten," explained one of the rank and file strike leaders. Their strike was smashed by J. C. Bradley, a powerful independent mine operator. An infuriatingly sinuous account of how Bradley met the strikers

demands, appears in the Jan. 29 U.S. News & World Report.

Here is a sample of the attitude of this voice of Big Business: "An old fashioned mine war — complete with killing, gunplay and dynamiting — has come to an end." "The winner, after fifteen months of strife, is a rugged individualist who owns a coal mine."

The strikers were shot at by scabs, company thugs and state police. Their homes were dynamited. They were railroaded to prison. All were driven from their company-owned homes. None were rehired at the strike's end.

The mines now operate three days a week, two shifts a day. The strikebreakers are digging the same amount of coal in two shifts as was formerly mined in three. "We have efficient machinery and hard working miners," the profit-hungry Bradley complacently explains.

These two cases should alert every militant to the dangers ahead. The unions are in for a pounding that can end in shattering setbacks unless defensive measures are taken in time. The full power of the trade union movement must be mobilized — today in advance of the coming battles, and in preparation for them.

The American workers have demonstrated their capacity for struggle on the picket line. But in the rough times ahead this is not enough. Labor must forge new, modern weapons with which to meet the employers — the weapons of labor politics. Labor must build its own party and put its own people in office. Nothing else will succeed in blocking the coming union-busting, wage-cutting drive.

A Victory in Steve Nelson Case

The reversal of the conviction of Steven Nelson, former western Pennsylvania Communist Party chairman, by the Supreme Court of that state will be welcomed by every principled defender of civil liberties.

The political frame-up of Nelson, which carried with it a particularly brutal sentence of 20 years imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine, grew out of a campaign of witch-hunting hysteria launched by the Pittsburgh daily press during the 1950 coal miner's strike.

The actual frame-up of Nelson was engineered by the notorious fascist-minded Judge Musmanno of that city. As a "private citizen," he simply walked into the Communist Party bookshop and purchased copies of the Communist Manifesto and other publications which can be obtained in almost any Public Library. These books were then used as "evidence" to obtain Nelson's conviction under the Pennsylvania Sedition Act of 1919.

The three-year persecution of Nelson and his two Stalinist co-defendants was marked by unbridled hounding of the victims both before and after their actual conviction. Nelson's case was severed from the original trial because of an accident in which he suffered a broken leg. A year later he was hauled into court, still seriously ill, and forced to defend himself without benefit of counsel. It is reported that three times during his imprisonment, in reprisal for the campaign to obtain his release, he was thrown into solitary confinement.

Why They Died in Korea

For what purpose did the American people suffer more than 150,000 casualties in Korea? Why did this country "liberate" South Korea, slaughtering four million North Korean civilians and some two million South Koreans, our "allies"?

All the capitalist politicians, Democrats and Republicans alike, claim U.S. intervention was intended to halt "aggression." The Stalinists interpret the war in the same way, only they charge the "aggression" to the other side. According to them, it was just a struggle between peace-lovers and war-lovers, and you can take your choice as to who was who.

We have always flatly denied this nonsensical explanation of the nature and origin of the Korean war. We have contended from the first that, however much both sides try to conceal the fact, the struggle that broke out in Korea in June 1950 was a civil war, a class war, with the workers, peasants and student youth on one side and the Korean landlords, usurers, capitalists and their police and political agents on the other. Wall Street entered the war to back its class allies represented by the Syngman Rhee dictatorship in South Korea.

The Militant noted and reported all the manifestations of this class struggle. One of the things we described was how the North Korean government, when it entered a new territory, confiscated the large land-holdings of the rich landlord class and divided the land among the poor peasants.

On the other side, we quoted Rhee's interview in the Oct. 27, 1950, U.S. News and World Report in which he said that he was instituting "land reform" in areas of South Korea recaptured from the North Koreans and that "we will take away the land given the tenants and return it to the landlords."

Now we are further confirmed in our analysis of the class character of the Korean war by a Jan. 24 Associated Press dispatch from Seoul. It reports that Rhee has proposed a constitutional amendment to convert South Korea's nationalized industries into private property under the ownership of Korean and foreign capitalists.

It is not well known, but almost all the important industries in South Korea, such as mining, fishing and power, have been operating under a form of nationalization since Korea was taken away from the Japanese imperialists in 1945. Not even Rhee dared to alter this set-up before the U.S. troops and bombing planes were sent in to crush the revolutionary struggle of the Korean people.

During the war, Rhee took the occasion to wipe out the independent labor movement in South Korea. The unions had been the biggest obstacle to the seizure of nationalized industries by the capitalist gang behind Rhee. Rhee also violently crushed any opposition inside the South Korean National Assembly. Today he is reaching out to fulfill the job of robbing the Korean people for which Wall Street put him in power back in 1948.

Pledge Struggle to Save The Fourth International

The International Committee of the Fourth International, holding its second meeting on Jan. 10-11, provided additional information on the bureaucratic character of the revisionist Pablo faction's so-called "14th Plenum of the International Executive Committee" in December; reached the conclusion that the Pablo faction has destroyed the IEC elected by the 3rd World Congress of the Fourth International; and pledged to continue its work, as the only representative leadership of the International, for a genuinely democratic 4th World Congress.

The IC, which was formed two months ago by several of the largest sections to save the Fourth International from degeneration and eventual liquidation by the Pablo faction, fully confirmed the Militant's estimate of the rump "plenum" staged by the Pabloites.

This so-called "plenum," warned the IC, "seeks to arrogate to itself the right to expel sections of the Fourth International, to proclaim new phantom sections, to suspend seven international leaders elected by the 3rd World Congress," thus raising the number of "expelled" IEC members to a total of nine.

Present at the "plenum" were Pablo, who represents nobody but himself; Germain, representing a small group in Brussels; Frank, representing a handful of French ex-Trotskyists who covered up the Stalinist betrayal of the August general strike after having split the French party; Theo, or "Bos," representing ten Dutch Pabloites; two representatives of the Pabloite majority in the German party; and one representative of the Pabloite majority in the Italian party.

Excluding all the responsible leaders with a working class base, minus all representatives of the Latin American, Asian, Middle Eastern and other sections, this was the tiny group of revisionists who proclaimed themselves the "14th plenum."

Typical of Pabloite methods was the procedure followed in connection with the Chinese section.

tion and S. T. Peng, the Chinese member of the IEC. Neither the section nor Peng had yet expressed any opinion on the present crisis in the Fourth International. In good standing in the International, they had nevertheless committed the unpardonable sin — they had not joined the Pablo faction. For this reason Peng was not invited to attend the meeting of the IEC to which the 3rd World Congress had elected him.

In fact, Peng not only was not invited to attend the "plenum" but was not even informed about it until it was all over. Peng then wrote a strong letter of protest against his bureaucratic exclusion, in which he also condemned Pablo's International Secretariat for having factually withheld from him and other IEC members information and documents about the crisis in the International. "Thus it is proved not only that you illegally abused the name of the plenum of the IEC to sanction your illegal practices, but also that you have completely trampled under foot the statutes of the International."

Peng demanded that his protest be made known to all IEC members and national sections. Pablo refused to do this, and the IC released a copy for the information of the entire International. Commenting on this and other aspects of the so-called "plenum," the IC said:

"All potential opponents were kept out of this rump body baptized the 14th plenum. Thus the latter could 'unanimously' ratify the exclusion of nearly a majority of the members elected by the 3rd World Congress, representing the great majority of the organized Trotskyist forces... In the worst tradition of Stalin, Pablo takes preventive measures against the risks of a potential opposition."

"In this way Pablo himself removed all possible doubts about the correctness of the course followed by the International Committee of the Fourth International."

NO LONGER EXISTS

"The IEC elected by the 3rd World Congress no longer exists. Pablo, to safeguard his personal power, has liquidated it, achieving a new step in the fulfillment

What Negro People Can Expect from President

(Continued from page 1) teamed up with the Southern Democrats to vote down anti-discrimination amendments to federal education and other bills in 1949.

While Douglas talks liberal (for the benefit of Negro voters), the Democratic Party as a whole is moving steadily to the right. Ever since the 1952 election the Democratic left wing has been coddling up closer and closer to the Dixiecrats and the Eisenhower Democrats. Adlai Stevenson went on a trip to Georgia to shake the hand of the rabidly white supremacist Gov. Talmadge. Stephen Mitchell, Democratic national chairman, has been holding conferences in the South to woo the worst Jim Crow politicians, and the latter have expressed deep satisfaction over the progress made in "healing the wounds."

If the Negro people got and could expect little from the Democrats in the past, they will get and can expect even less in the future.

This brings us to the problem facing Negro voters in the 1954 elections: What party should they support?

The growing difficulty of convincing Negroes that neither capitalist party acts in their interests has produced a new tendency among Negro leaders and writers, especially among those who used to back the Democrats or leaned in that direction. Since this tendency may grow, it deserves some serious attention. Here is a summary of what they are saying:

"Civil rights is not as strong an issue in American politics as it used to be in the late 1940's, particularly since the Republicans won in 1952 without the support of most Negroes. Because our 'balance-of-power' position has been weakened, we must be realistic. We must recognize that neither of the old parties is going to make any big bid for our support, the Republicans because they won without us, the Democrats because they feel they have our support anyhow and are now wooing the South. The policy we ought to follow, therefore, is to work inside both parties, depending on which one is strongest in a particular area. In this way we will be able to get some concessions, even if they are not big ones, from both parties."

This opportunist "bipartisan" policy, as we will call it for lack

of a better name, will undoubtedly have some attraction for a section of the Negro people — the middle class. It offers the "talented tenth" the prospect of getting "recognition" (that is, some more jobs for themselves) in exchange for acceptance of the status quo (that is, in return for giving up all opposition to the run-around that both capitalist parties are giving the Negro people as a whole).

But for the great majority of the Negroes (that is, the other nine-tenths who are workers and farmers) this policy could prove fatal. It would mean, in effect, giving up the political fight for full equality, or postponing it to the distant future. This is the kind of "realism" that the Dixiecrats would endorse with both hands because it would accomplish just what they are trying to achieve.

NO — BUILD LABOR PARTY

The Negro people should say NO loudly and unmistakably to the "bipartisan" proposals. If both old parties have turned their backs on the Negro people, the answer is not to infiltrate both of them, but to fight both of them openly and more militantly than ever before. The answer is to withhold support from both of them, at the polls and to work for the creation of a new party based on the labor movement, the farmers and the minority groups, and to use this party to throw both old parties out of power. Every other course is genuinely unrealistic because it cannot serve the interests of the great majority of Negroes now or later.

The question then is raised by many people: "But what can we Negroes achieve in the task of building an independent Labor Party when the leaders of the labor movement are blocking its formation? We want a Labor Party, but we know we can't build it by ourselves. What good will it do, how much can we accomplish until the labor movement itself is ready to break with the capitalist parties and go into politics on its own?"

This is a real question, and we will try to answer it in our next issue, when the Militant will celebrate Negro History Week, by discussing the effects of independent Negro action on the course of American political history, including the long and difficult Negro struggle for equality.

of his plan to liquidate the International. From now on the last uncertainties are removed. The only representative leadership of the Fourth International is the International Committee.

"Aware of its responsibilities, the International Committee will work to prepare the conditions for a genuinely democratic 4th World Congress of the International."

In accord with this perspective, the IC adopted a number of resolutions on organizational and political matters related to the struggle in the International:

It commended the decision of the Bolivian Trotskyists to publish for discussion in their ranks the IC's documents in the struggle against Pabloism. (The Pabloite rump "plenum" had voted to "suspend from their posts of leadership in the section all those who signed" the Letter of the Socialist Workers Party or the appeal of the International Committee, "or approved them and are trying to rally on this base the sections of the International.") The Bolivian Trotskyists evidently want to hold a genuine discussion of the disputed issues in the International, unlike the Pabloites who have "expelled" their opponents and want to outlaw their ideas in the International.)

URGE AID TO BOLIVIA

It solidified itself with the revolutionary struggle of the Bolivian Trotskyists against the reactionary forces in their country and asked the sections of the International during the month of March to collect maximum financial aid for the Bolivian party. The necessary addresses for the contributions can be obtained from the IC.

The IC congratulated the British section for having won a decisive victory against the Pabloite minority in that country and denounced the lie spread by the Pabloites that misrepresents "the majority of two-thirds of the members as a minority. The only section of the Fourth International existing in England participates with full rights in the IC." The small British minority, "allied with British centrism and the Pabloite liquidators, has no political or organizational right to call itself part of the Fourth International."

Considering the situation in Ceylon, the IC expressed its satisfaction at "the firm steps already taken by the Lanka Samaja Party to successfully combat the revisionist pro-Stalinist tendency which had developed in its ranks. It warmly salutes the firm adherence of the LSSP publications to the principles of authentic Trotskyism. The IC has full confidence that this party, thanks to its attachment to these principles, will continue to give revolutionary leadership to the workers of Ceylon in their coming struggles."

HIT SLANDER OF SWP

In another resolution the IC expressed its revulsion against the Pabloite charge that the Socialist Workers Party has succumbed to the pressure of imperialism. "This slander is borrowed from the arsenal of Stalinism and is introduced now, as in 1928 by the Stalinists in the Communist International, to prevent the political discussion of the problems posed to the world Trotskyist movement." Confident that the SWP will take its rightful place in the leadership of the great class struggles that will unfold in the U.S., the IC also saluted the SWP's current campaign against McCarthyism and the witch hunt.

Together with the release of Peng's letter of protest, the IC appealed to the Chinese section "to pronounce itself clearly in favor of the defense of the Trotskyist program and world organization by rallying to the International Committee."

(The Chinese party, in a resolution received after the IC meeting, has acted along these lines. See our article on this page.)

SCORE PURGE IN USSR

Also adopted was a resolution on the secret trial and execution of Beria, which the IC characterized as a "bloody continuation of the crimes of Stalin." Malenkov, it stressed, is continuing the real tradition of the police-terror regime, not attacking it.

The privileged bureaucratic caste in the Kremlin has by this trial struck a new blow against the Soviet Union by providing the imperialists with weapons to confuse the workers and weaken their anti-capitalist struggles, and it has openly defied the hopes of the Soviet workers for the abolition of the totalitarian dictatorship.

Calling on all sections of the Fourth International to conduct a vigorous campaign against the crimes of the Soviet bureaucracy, the IC denounced the Pabloite IS for its refusal to utter any condemnation of this witch hunt trial.

Not a Happy Job



Amintore Fanfani, so-called "left-of-center" Christian Democrat (Catholic party), confers in Rome with Pres. Luigi Einaudi (right) in advance of trying to form a new cabinet to replace the short-lived Pella government, also Christian Democrat, which succeeded the Christian Democratic DeGasperri regime that fell despite the millions Washington poured in to maintain it.

Chinese Trotskyist Party Hits Pabloism

JAN. 19 — The International Committee of the Fourth International, representing the Trotskyist faction of the International, today announced the adherence of the Chinese section in the struggle

against Pabloism. It released copies of a resolution unanimously adopted by the National Committee of the Chinese Revolutionary Communist Party, solidifying itself with the Letter to the Trotskyists of the world written by the 25th Anniversary Plenum of the Socialist Workers Party (Militant, Nov. 16).

The main sections of the Chinese resolution follow:

"We all consider that the tendency represented by Pablo, who assumes that in the 'new world reality' Stalinism will gradually transform itself and adopt the Trotskyist program under the pressure of the masses, and which covers up in many ways the criminal betrayals of Stalinism, has evidently abandoned the fundamental position of orthodox Trotskyism on the role of Stalinism, its perspective and the role of the Fourth International, and is heading toward revisionism in reconciliation with Stalinism. This revisionist deviation has become more clearly revealed when applied to all important problems of the day."

"Meanwhile, in order to impose arbitrarily his revisionism, Pablo has resorted recklessly to a series of bureaucratic practices, such as excluding and eliminating his opponents from the International, playing intrigues to reinforce his own clique, attempting to monopolize the apparatus and

control the national sections as the basis of its consolidation. These practices are absolutely incompatible with the fundamental Bolshevik organizational principle — democratic centralism. "To safeguard our political and organizational tradition, we must denounce and reject resolutely and mercilessly the revisionism and bureaucraticism represented by Pablo. Hence we have unanimously decided to respond to the call of the SWP of the United States, to support with all our might the struggle initiated and led by it against revisionism and bureaucraticism, and to demand the dismissal of Pablo and the reorganization of the International Secretariat..."

"We are profoundly convinced that together with all the other sections of the International, we shall be able to beat back revisionism and bureaucraticism on the international arena, and to defend and safeguard orthodox Trotskyism..."

The International Committee, in a statement accompanying the Chinese resolution, said: "This decision of the Chinese section — the oldest section of the International — is a striking demonstration of the fact that the theoretical foundations of Trotskyist organizations cannot be undermined by the Pabloite renegades who camouflage themselves under the banner of Trotskyism."

THE MILITANT ARMY

Detroit Militant salesmen sold 114 copies of the paper this week. "This is one of the highest responses to the Militant in the area that has been seen in many a year," writes Literature Agent Janet MacGregor.

"On Wednesday Bob A. Winters, and Edie went out to sell Militants on the Wayne Campus and in 20 minutes they sold 27 copies. Sunday we went to the Ferndale housing project where we have been selling on a route basis and the following are the totals there: A. Winters, five; J. Allen, two; Fred, four; Frank, 10; Janet, eight; Ker, 11; Sherry, 15; Edie, 10; and Bob, eight. We also obtained a one-year sub to the Militant that Sunday."

"On Tuesday we sold 13 copies of the Militant at the Wayne Council of the CIO. We took the McCarthy pamphlet to a seminar on civil rights also."

Philadelphia Literature Agent George Lorea reports, "We've been concentrating on sales of the Katcher book here in Philly this past week, with some success, and with more to come. The local joint board of the ILGWU purchased five copies when approached by Bob. Another comrade has sold six copies right in his own shop in the past week."

"George, Marty and Rose had a good sale of the Militant at the Friends Forum last Sunday. Despite a small turnout for the forum, due to the blizzard which brought the city almost to a standstill, seven copies were sold in a short time. For the next meeting, a debate on 'McCarthyism — American or Un-American?' a special sale of the McCarthy pamphlet is being prepared."

Chicago Militant salesmen

Factories laid off workers in December at twice the post-World War II average for that month, reports the Labor Department.

The Negro Struggle

By Jean Blake

To the Youth of the NAACP

More than 500 young people are expected to attend an NAACP-sponsored National Youth Legislative Conference at Howard University, Washington, Jan. 28-31, according to a news release from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The conference slogan is "Free by '63" — the one hundredth anniversary of Lincoln's emancipation proclamation — and "emphasis will be placed on plans for attaining this goal."

The purposes of the conference, NAACP Youth Secretary Herbert L. Wright announced, are "to inform American youth and young adults of the many great social, economic and political problems confronting the country today and to encourage and help prepare young people to participate in the civic affairs of their respective communities."

If the conference were a genuine youth conference, democratically organized and conducted by the membership, we might expect some interesting developments from it — the formulation of a bold, fresh program for action; the emergence of promising young leaders capable of challenging the self-appointed official "representatives" of the Negro people who are the products of our decayed and corrupted society.

We might expect the forthrightness and honesty of youth — demonstrated in the past at NAACP conventions and elsewhere — to demand direct answers to basic questions; to reject impatiently the long-term perspective of "gradualism" in the struggle for equality expressed in recent speeches by "respectable" middle-class Negro leaders like Joseph D. Bibb and others; to propose a complete break with the double-talking Congressmen and Admin-

istration leaders and the compromisers who apologize for them.

But the prospects for such a development at the conference this week, a development that could stem the tide of reaction and retreat in the Negro struggle, reorient it, and inspire the colored masses, are not very promising.

The nature of the conference, like other recent NAACP meetings, is indicated in advance by the fact that the anti-Negro, anti-labor, pro-McCarthy Vice President Richard Nixon will be the principal speaker at the closing session of the four-day conference.

Another discouraging feature is the long list of government and other spokesmen for the status quo who will address the gathering, leaving little if any time for the youth themselves to discuss their real problems and express their actual needs.

Finally, the composition of the delegates themselves, if it is typical of NAACP youth leaders in recent years, is too limited, has too narrow a base. Consisting primarily of college students, of young professional people and those in the narrow segment of the Negro population who aim merely to widen their own opportunities for white-collar jobs within the framework of the present social system, they lack, to a great extent, the realism, the stimulation — and the courage of the millions of young colored workers in industry.

The NAACP youth conference will be significant to the degree that some of the young men and women present recognize its weaknesses and take steps to correct them. The independent thinkers in the group, those who base themselves on the best traditions of our civilization, those with the courage and self-confidence to throw off the "dead hand of the past" will be the leaders of the future.

"The Wild One"

By Jeanne Morgan

Against the background of a bleak, stretching road, a dense knot of roaring motorcycles comes fiercely toward the audience in the opening scene of "The Wild One." Their black leather jackets merge with black machines and make a solid, savage unit, like strange animal creatures, unknown and fearsome.

This new Stanley Kramer Production is built around an incident which occurred in the town of Hollister — in the heart of the vigilante area of Southern California, where the edges of society, like an ice-floe, begin to break apart and divide into chunks and groups of people, battering against each other.

The events and results of such conflict are seen in this film. The plot is simple. The "Black Rebels Motorcycle Club" descends upon a small town in a mood of holiday recklessness and violent frictions spring up between the Rebels and the town's more bigoted citizens, who take matters into their own hands with a vigilante committee. Beer drinking and riotous uproar turn to street fights. The citizens, with a thirst for lynching, break out their guns and whiskey bottles and murder and violence begin in earnest.

Order is restored only when the Sheriff comes in with outside cops. The kindly Sheriff is sympathetic (as always in the fairland of the "flicks") to the plight of the Rebels and is moved to release them and speeds them on their way with no prosecution.

Overlook this glaring flaw (the usual Hollywood attempt to ennoble the police) and the film contains a beautiful portrayal of the attitudes and constant crisis of the outcast and displaced youth. We see their solidarity against the police, their restless disquiet, their sardonic humor, "Oh, China," as he is being dragged off to jail, "cratically" declares, "Oh, the shame of it all, the shame of it all!"

And we see the sullen and impassive "Johnny," leader of the Rebels, who fills the audience with terror and pity. Marlon Brando, in a very moving performance, displays Johnny's personality and shows us a tragic figure, who moves inarticulately through the violence, trying to replace the police and create justice according to the Rebel's standards of what justice should be.

One of the most revealing bits of dialogue is an exchange between Johnny and a girl who notices the skull and cross-bones and initials B.R.M.C. blazoned across the backs of the black leather jackets. She cries, "What's that stand for?"

Johnny answers tersely, "Black Rebels Motorcycle Club."

The girl laughs, inquires facetiously, "What are you rebelling against?"

In a quiet and sullen tone, Johnny says, "What have you got?"

Here in "The Wild One" we see a fairly honest picture of the displaced and outcast rebels who are spawned by the thousands from every pore of the city and countryside in modern America. This is the group, rampant among the youth, who have rebelled against all "phoniness" and consider today's world a fraud and a swindle.

These are the "crazy mixed-up kids" who are not broken to the courtesies and disciplines of bourgeois life — rather they are broken by the disregard, neglect and underestimation offered them on every hand.

They don't believe that "any boy can be President" and "every girl is a lady until proven otherwise," and what is more, they see no value or point in being either a lady, or the President. Back in the "dear, dead days beyond recall" the youth believed in The Future and Working Your Way Up. This generation is disenchanted.

Notes from the News

MCCARTHY'S SHADOW FALLS ON CANADA. The Premier of Quebec is attempting to jam through the legislature a law providing for the "declassification" by the Quebec Labor Board of any union "tolerating" communists among its officers. The Labor Board would be empowered to effect such decertification on a simple charge, without proof. Decertification would mean that all union activity, including negotiations and strikes, could be halted at a moment's notice, and by police enforcement — if necessary. A second bill would decertify unions "encouraging" strikes in public services.

"LEFT-WING EGG HEADS" are "trying to promote us into hard times for political reasons," declared Joseph Martin, Speaker of the House of Representatives, in a Jan. 23 Philadelphia speech. Their nefarious aim, he explained, is "to lead us into socialism." Martin said he doesn't know any responsible business men who are pessimistic about the business outlook. Perhaps he deduced that from his prediction that "public housing will soon become only a memory."

WEEKEND ANIMAL RESEARCH. A government-owned two-story "cottage," with a swimming pool and two-car garage, has been made available for Secretary of Agriculture Benson as a private weekend vacation retreat. To get it in shape for Eisenhower's farm expert, \$2,018 was spent on repairs. The money was diverted from the Department's animal research appropriation. Rugs and some furniture have also been provided. Additional furnishings were kicked in by a Washington businessman as a loyal "act of friendship." Benson pays the heavy sum of \$2 a day for those days he occupies the hideaway. Eisenhower pledged increased funds for agricultural research — when he was running for office. After the election, Benson cut the research budget by \$6,000,000 in the interest of "economy." Benson is currently unavailable for comment about what kind of animal research he conducts weekends in his cozy shack. Aides say he has entered a Naval Hospital for "a checkup," likewise presumably at government expense.

SUPREME SACRIFICE. A Japanese court has ruled that U.S. military forces should return the plush Ernie Pyle theater in downtown Tokyo to its Japanese owners. The court held that U.S. control of the best theater in Japan is not necessary to assist in guarding Japan against foreign aggression. The Jan. 24 N.Y. Times thinks the case points up the reluctance of U.S. military brass to sacrifice its most cherished holdings in Japan. The paper reports that the U.S. military still controls, as under the occupation, resorts, hotels, golf courses and similar beachheads required in defending the land of the Mikado from the menace of "communism."

PROMISE? WHAT PROMISE? More than 25,000 New York tenants had their rents boosted last December. 14,918 tenants had their rent hiked an average of \$4.48 for "additional services." Another 9,502 "voluntarily" came across with an average increase of \$8.94 in return for leases. 1,116 got hit for an average increase of \$13.72 to assure the landlord a "six plus two" percent profit. "It would be a good idea to bear in mind . . . the state never (did) promise to freeze rents permanently at the 1943 level," points out Rent Administrator, McGoldrick.

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STATE BALLOT-BAN BILL HIT BY NEW YORK SWP

NEW YORK, Jan. 23 — "The bill introduced into the State Assembly on Jan. 11 by Assemblyman Van Duzer, which would bar the Communist Party and other subversive organizations from the ballot in New York State, strikes a blow at the American tradition of the free ballot," said David L. Weiss, mayoralty candidate of the Socialist Workers Party in the last city election.

Speaking in the name of his party, Mr. Weiss continued: "The right of the Socialist Workers Party to appear on the ballot in contest for the vote of the state electorate is being directly challenged by this proposed measure. Mr. Van Duzer's bill is in complete harmony with the aims and practices of the McCarthyite witch hunters."

DENIAL OF RIGHTS

"Under the proposed measure, any new political formation that seeks to challenge the dominant political party stands in danger of being denied the right to appear on the ballot, merely by being arbitrarily labeled 'subversive.' Existing minority parties such as the American Labor Party, Liberal Party, Industrial Government Party and the Socialist Workers Party are in imminent jeopardy of being excluded from the state ballot. The voters who support these parties face denial of their rights as citizens to vote for the party of their choice."

"Should the proposal become



DAVID WEISS

law, New York state will have taken a long step toward police-stateism. It will then be clear that the American tradition of democratic electoral practice exists neither in fact nor in law and the domination of a single political party representing powerful interests will be completely assured."

"The Socialist Workers Party calls upon all citizens irrespective of their political affiliation, to join in condemning this reactionary proposal of Assemblyman Van Duzer."

McCarthy Submits His '53 "Progress" Report

By Harry Ring

Senator McCarthy, No. 1 contender for position of American Hitler, has submitted to the U.S. Senate a report on the progress of his assault on the Bill of Rights. The

20,000 word document, boasting that 1953 was for the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations "perhaps the most active period in its history," demonstrates that one of McCarthy's major accomplishments in the year was the virtual torpedoing of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Those of McCarthy's "opponents" who accept his basic premise about the alleged need to fight a "red peril" but who oppose his "methods," will undoubtedly attempt to use the report as proof that McCarthy has actually accomplished very little in the way of uncovering "spies." They miss the point by a mile.

It is true that as a result of 157 "investigations" and 445 preliminary inquiries, with a total of some 1,200 people "questioned" by his staff, McCarthy can point to but four individuals ousted from government jobs as "suspect."

But for McCarthy the witch hunt of government employees is simply a device for whipping up anti-communist hysteria. It helps provide the atmosphere most favorable for his real objective — organization of a native American fascist movement that will be directed in the end against the workers and minority groups.

CAN BACK HIS BOASTS

Here McCarthy can boast solid accomplishments in 1953. The report implies, and not without justification, that McCarthy's continuing fierce attack on "Fifth Amendment Communists" was responsible for Eisenhower's Executive Order giving federal department and agency heads permission to fire employees who dare exercise the right guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment to refuse to answer questions of possibly self-incriminatory nature.

Further, the report boasts, this policy has now been adopted by such powerful corporations as General Electric and International Telephone & Telegraph. Six workers have already been victimized by GE for asserting their constitutional rights against McCarthy. A congressional bill is now being drawn up, the report announces, to legalize this practice.

WIDENING THE SMEAR

This is clearly indicated by the whole series of witnesses hauled before his committee in recent months who have felt it necessary to invoke the First Amendment, which guarantees the right of free speech and association. They have been forced to virtually forfeit their rights guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment in an effort to avoid the stigma McCarthy has succeeded in placing on it.

While McCarthy's victims have every right to all possible lines of defense, it must be recognized how little is needed to widen the

label of "Fifth Amendment Communists" to include "First Amendment Communists," and in the end, perhaps, of "Constitutional Communists."

With the publications of his report, and the absolute certainty of another huge Congressional appropriation for the continuance of his work, it becomes increasingly clear that McCarthy has welded a powerful independent machine which has both the Republicans and Democrats terrorized.

The Republicans have made a futile effort to counter McCarthy's "anti-communist" record with the announcement of the purge of 2,200 "security risks" since they took office. But they can't even meet his score of four "communist" victims. Under fire of skeptical questions, the harassed Attorney General Brownell stoutly asserted that "at least one" of the 2,200 is a "former communist."

TOSSES DEMOS A BONE

The capitulation of the Democratic Party to McCarthy has now been completed with the return of the three "boycotting" Democrats to his committee. The Wisconsin fascist won this by making two "concessions." He granted the Democrats the right to hire a clerk and counsel of their own and the right to appeal the decisions of the subcommittee, in which they are a minority, to the parent committee, in which they are also a minority.

The surrender of the Democratic Party to McCarthy has been so craven as to evoke sneers from the most conservative quarters.

The Democrats "are the bravest drawing room critics of McCarthy in the city," contemptuously writes James Reston in the Jan. 24, N. Y. Times, "but in public they say very little..."

Evaluating the short-lived Democratic "boycott," Reston says, "It has merely sharpened the public image of Senator McCarthy as the symbol of aggressive anti-communism." The boycott, however, Reston notes, served "the over-all strategy of the Democratic leadership. It avoids a public fight with Senator McCarthy."

This "over-all strategy" of "avoiding a public fight" has not been changed with the Democratic decision to return to the witch-hunting committee. Reporting a brief public exchange between McCarthy and Democratic Senator Symington as to the cause of the boycott, the Jan. 25 N. Y. Times says, "Both Senators agreed laughingly to terminate the exchange."

McCarthy's report is a fresh warning to organized labor. It is more urgent than ever to break with the Democratic Party that "laughingly agrees" with the fascist senator. A Labor Party must be built to smash McCarthy before he accomplishes his mission of smashing labor.

THE MILITANT

Note of Violence Struck By McCarthy in Boston

By Lynn Marcus

BOSTON, Jan. 17 — Violence and the threat of violence were the outstanding features of Senator McCarthy's latest "hearing" in the New England area. It set the atmosphere and struck the keynote of what the Boston Globe today called "the most tumultuous Congressional sessions ever held in Boston." A flying squad of seven deputy marshals was present to manhandle witnesses and spectators who were not already intimidated and terrorized by the presence of the fascist Senator from Wisconsin.

One spectator was, in the words of a TV announcer on the

spot, "jet-propelled" by five burly guards from the 12th-floor hearing into the snowbanks of Devonshire St. A witness and his attorney were "escorted to the door in rough fashion," according to the Globe. Another attorney was threatened with similar treatment. All a witness had to do was answer sharply and the marshals' hands were already seizing his arms, waiting only for McCarthy's command to throw the man out.

The purpose of this physical terrorism was revealed in McCarthy's snarling threats to imprison witnesses who failed to submit to his political terrorism and publicly reveal the names of

persons who might be "communists."

As the McCarthyite fascist movement grows, it is developing a hunger for victims that simply cannot be satisfied by the small ranks of the radical parties. In the two hearings here, McCarthy demanded the names not only of "communists" but of persons who had attended meetings sponsored by radical groups and even of persons who were accused of nothing but having contributed money to protect the civil liberties of witch hunt victims.

COURAGEOUS STAND

Of five General Electric workers called yesterday, all but one pitiful informer refused to turn over the names of past and present associates to the McCarthyite inquisitors. One 64-year old naturalized citizen, Alexander Gregory, courageously announced: "I am placed in the position today either to testify as a political informer or lose my job." He and two other witnesses who refused to turn stoolpigeon did so on the grounds of freedom of association and speech. The fourth used the Fifth Amendment.

Two of the attorneys for GE workers called yesterday issued warnings of the dangerous character of McCarthy's terroristic methods against witnesses and lawyers. Oliver Allen, attorney for witness Pappas, warned: "Repetition of today's events will, in my judgment, sound the death knell of the independence of the bar."

Stating that he would ask the Bar Association to take immediate action, he concluded: "I am confident that they will condemn the use of force against a brother attorney while in the performance of his duty as a lawyer."

Attorney Shubow, counsel for another witness, said: "My oath as an attorney obliges me to give every client the benefit of the most vigorous defense of which I am capable regardless of the personal consequences... I will continue to do my duty until Senator McCarthy's assaults on due process are brought to a halt."

PROTESTS NOT ENOUGH

It is correct to demand that the Bar Association protest the illegal and forcible methods employed by McCarthy to cow witnesses and lawyers alike. But it would be foolish to place reliance on such protests as a means of stopping McCarthyism. Their creation of a lynch atmosphere around McCarthy's victims and their attempts to popularize "rough stuff" as the only proper treatment of anybody who defies the witch hunt are calculated and deliberate.

The American fascists won't be stopped by protests, by reminders that they are acting against the law or the spirit of democratic tradition, or by pleas to act in an "orderly" fashion — any more than Hitler was stopped that way. The labor movement will have to recognize that it is the ultimate target of McCarthyism, and begin to act politically to preserve and restore the democratic liberties being trampled by the witch hunters. To prevent the development of the present McCarthyite movement into a fascist dictatorship, a Congress of Labor and an independent Labor Party are needed. And the need is becoming more urgent every day.

Telephone rate increases in excess of \$795,000,000 have been won by the Bell Telephone system during the past seven years. Increases amounting to a minimum of \$128,000,000 are now in the hopper, with more coming up. This giant monopoly controls 100% of interstate phone service and about 85% of all local service. Its 1953 profits were in excess of \$500,000,000. ("Your Telephone Bill" by H. R. Booth. The Nation, Jan. 23.)

WHY MONROE INMATES RIOTED OVER JIM CROW

By H. Baker

(Third of four articles)

Part of the curtain covering conditions in American reformatories was lifted recently when several inmates of the Monroe Reformatory were permitted to testify at a televised hearing conducted by the Washington State Legislature committee's investigation of a riot at Monroe last August.

The warden and other state officials connected with administration of the reformatory were opposed to letting the inmates testify, and had to be overruled by the investigating committee. The committee, itself, had no sympathy for the inmates, and its chairman announced it would try to keep them from giving anything but direct answers to questions. It took real courage for the inmates to speak up under these conditions.

The first inmate of Monroe Reformatory to testify was a young white boy, who admitted that the inmates had discussed "breaking Taylor out of deadlock." Earnest Taylor, a Negro youth, was brutally beaten by a guard when he resisted being put into solitary confinement. This was the incident that precipitated the riot in which one inmate was shot dead and three were injured.

Why were the white inmates so concerned about Taylor, and why did they resent the Jim Crow treatment practiced against Negro inmates? The white lad's testimony showed that the inmates had learned how race prejudice hurts both white and Negro. The colored youth, he explained, are never put on crew or office jobs, and are generally confined to work as porters. The only way a Negro inmate can escape the worst conditions is by becoming a stoolpigeon or lending money to guards. Jim Crow is among other things a device for recruiting stoolpigeons, and therefore a system that concretely damages both white and Negro inmates.

PRISON "STORES"

This same witness also denounced the commissary set-up. The commissary is open only one day a week, and each inmate can spend only \$4 a week there. If he should need clothing, he isn't able to buy cigarettes and candy too. This has led to the creation of "stores" run by inmates, operating on credit.

For each pack of cigarettes obtained from these "stores," you have to pay back two packs at the

Judge Passes Test For the Bull Ring

When Mrs. Helen Winter, one of six members of the Communist Party accused in Michigan of violating the Smith "Gag" Act, reported sick, Judge Frank A. Picard appointed a doctor to examine her. The doctor said she could appear in court, so she was wheeled in on a stretcher.

The judge took one look at the red blanket covering her and ordered: "Get that red flag out of this courtroom."

The defense attorney argued that the blanket was property of the ambulance service, but the judge ordered it removed nevertheless.

CHICAGO

Sunday Forum

"The Threat of American Fascism"

Speaker:

Bert Deck

Sunday, Feb. 14, 7:30 P.M.

Sholem Aleichem Hall

56th and Ellis

Questions, Discussion

NEW YORK DEBATE

'What Road for American Socialists?'

Youth Section, Socialist Workers Party

vs

Young Peoples Socialist League

Speakers:

Murray Forbes, SWP

Bogdan Denitch, YPSL

Friday, February 5, 8 P.M.

Adelphi Hall

74 Fifth Avenue

Contribution 35 cents