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THE SLUMP -- IT'S WORSE THAN THEY ADMIT

(See Page 2)

Democrats Jump When McCarthy Cracks the Whip

By John F. Petrone

Feb. 2, 1954, was a day to be remembered. It was the day that the Democratic Party, liberals and all, ran for cover in the U.S. Senate and joined with the Republicans by a vote of 85-1 to give the fascist Senator McCarthy the \$214,000 he had demanded to finance his attacks on democratic liberties. It was a day of triumphant rejoicing for the fascists and a day of terrible warning for the American people: For it demonstrated that the



MURRY WEISS

Weiss Opens Tour To Arouse Fight On McCarthyism

By George Breitman

NEWARK, Feb. 6 — Two political speaking tours began in this country this week. Because of what they symbolize, it is useful to contrast them.

One tour, by Senator McCarthy, was sponsored by the Republican National Committee, and began in West Virginia on Feb. 4. The other, by Murry Weiss, was sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party, and began in Newark last night.

McCarthy's subject was "Twenty Years of Treason." His aim was to mobilize fascist sentiment, spread hysteria, confuse the people with big lies, intimidate opponents and smear everything faintly liberal.

Weiss' subject was "McCarthyism: What It Is and How to Fight It." His aim was to mobilize anti-fascist sentiment, counteract apathy and defeatism, provide understanding of current political trends, clarify perspectives, encourage and enlighten the people and stimulate successful resistance to the growing fascist menace.

Anyone who listened to Weiss and read reports of McCarthy's speeches knows they are as different as day and night. But despite their differences, these two tours bear a certain relationship to one another.

In a very real sense they symbolize the conscious forces of the class struggle in the United States today — the people who know what's happening, what's coming, and what role they are going to play in the approaching showdown fight to determine the fate of this country.

Those who want to prevent fascism from crushing everything progressive and hopeful in American life can learn a lot and benefit greatly from hearing Murry Weiss on this tour. All readers of the Militant should make sure in advance that they will be present when he speaks in their area.

MURRY WEISS Tour Schedule

Buffalo: Feb. 13 - 16.
Pittsburgh: Feb. 19.
Youngstown: Feb. 20 - 21.
Akron: Feb. 23.
Cleveland: Feb. 24 - 25.
Detroit: Feb. 27 - Mar. 2.

GM Lie of 'Healthy Economy' Exploded by Chevrolet Union

New Setbacks Hit Invaders Of Indo-China

Only direct U.S. military intervention, including large-scale use of American troops, can now prevent defeat soon for French imperialism's bloody eight-year attempt to seize Indo-China and enslave its people. A new offensive by the 500,000-man independence army of Ho Chi Minh's Vietminh republic is sweeping across the province of Laos, in western Indo-China, and simultaneously retaking new territory in widespread areas throughout the rest of the country.

Last Jan. 4, Joseph Alsop of the N. Y. Herald-Tribune reported from Paris that the position of the French in Indo-China was "highly precarious" and that "the turbulent currents of French political opinion" reflected "a strong impulse to escape from the long and seemingly hopeless Indo-Chinese war at almost any price."

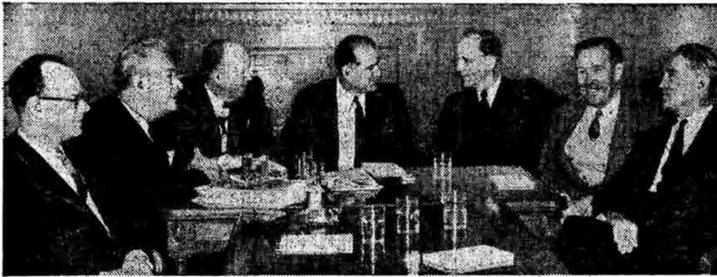
WALL ST. INSISTENCE
The brutal assault on Indo-China has continued largely at the insistence of Wall Street's government in Washington. However, not even the recent shipments to Indo-China of more than a billion dollars of new U.S. military equipment — plus at least 200 American air force technicians and flyers, as it has now leaked out — have been able to turn the tide for the French invaders.

According to the latest reports, the White House and Pentagon have agreed to ship another 400 "technicians" to the war zone, but this is a token. It raises the question whether this may lead to U.S. intervention on the scale of Korea, with the danger that the Indo-China war may then become the starting point for World War III.

SECRET REQUEST
France, says the Feb. 12 U.S. News and World Report, "is pressing secretly for a substantial force of U.S. military pilots and Air Force ground crews, to man and service combat aircraft in the Indo-China war." Openly, however, the French have asked merely for the 400 more "technicians," which Eisenhower is supplying.

To plunge this country into another Korea-type war so soon (Continued on page 3)

Democrats Back on McCarthy's Team



Three Democratic senators (right) attend the first conference of McCarthy's witch-hunting investigating committee after ending their "boycott" in return for the face-saving "right" to hire one of the committee's lawyers and clerks, and a voice in the firing of committee personnel. In the group (left to right) are Republican Senators Potter (Mich.), Dirksen (Ill.), Mundt (S.D.), McCarthy; and Democrats McClellan (Ark.), Jackson (Wash.), and Symington (Mo.). The photo was taken just before McCarthy embarked on his tour witch-hunting the Democrats for "twenty years of treason."

Stake of America's Artists In Anti-McCarthyite Battle

By Duncan Ferguson

The struggle against McCarthyism is not something of merely remote, abstract interest to the artist. Every serious artist, in every field — writing, painting and sculpture, music, movies and theater, etc. — has the most direct and personal interest in it. Because McCarthyism is more than witch-hunting, more than official and unofficial censorship, more than invasion of the individual's right to talk and write and think as he pleases. McCarthyism is the American form of fascism, and it is already on the march! And McCarthyite fascism, if it comes to power, will mean the immediate destruction of all free and independent expression for every creative artist, the immediate and complete crushing of all serious cultural life in the country.

That is why the artist, in the interest of elementary self-preservation even if for no other reason, must play his part in the fight against McCarthyism. The memory of what happened to the artists in Germany and to cultural life in general under Hitler should still be green enough for all of us.

But what role can the artist play in this struggle? Well, in the first place, and as a very gen-

eral proposition, I believe we can start with this: that in the struggle against McCarthyism the artist must remain faithful to what I suppose has been the oldest and most traditional aim of all artists — to seek out and to tell the truth.

And I don't believe we have been hearing the whole truth in a number of the speeches that were made last night and again this afternoon. The truth about McCarthyism is that it is American fascism. As such, its fundamental aim is not the ferreting out of

so-called 'communists,' getting 'liberal' teachers and artists and scientists fired from their jobs, blacklisting Hollywood and TV actors and playwrights.

It does all these things, sure enough, and plenty more in the way of suppressing the free thought and expression of artists and scientists and intellectuals. But these are preparatory blows, and secondary to the one fundamental aim of McCarthyism, which is — to smash the organized American labor movement.

It is not telling the truth, but spreading an illusion, to give the (Continued on page 2)

Big Flint Local Urges 30-Hour Work Week With 40 Hours' Pay

By Joseph Keller

"CAR PRODUCTION FLOPS — 4-Day Work Week Jolts Chevy Workers — United Labor Action Necessary to Save Nation from Disaster."

These are the banner headlines of the Feb. 2 issue of the Searchlight, official publication of the 14,000-member Chevrolet Local 659, CIO United Automobile Workers, in Flint, Mich.

Thus, from the very heart of the General Motors Empire comes refutation of GM president Harlowe M. Curcio's recent propaganda claim that "the national economy will be strong and healthy throughout the year."

Pointing out the need for "stressing the thirty-hour week with forty hours' pay," Local 659's President Robert Murphy gives the lie to Curcio, by revealing that thousands of GM workers in Flint have been reduced to part-time.

"In our Chevrolet assembly plant," reports Murphy, "they have not had a full week since the 11th of January; in the sheet metal division, for the past three weeks and more, they have encountered short work weeks and our motors division has been hit as of last Friday with the short work week and with the outlook of more to come."

"POSITIVE ACTION"
Emphasizing the program of the 30-hour week with 40 hours' pay, Murphy adds:

"We are now faced with a thirty-two hour work week with only 32 hours' pay. We must take positive action in our membership meetings to set up an emergency convention or conference of the United Automobile Workers and the entire CIO to pass resolutions of positive action to forestall the elimination of our jobs and the security from which we have received some solace since late 1939. . . . We are all aware of the dire need for positive action and POSITIVE ACTION IN THE NEAR FUTURE!"

This "solace," the lead article on the same page makes clear, was not secured without a price. That price has been war. The Searchlight finds "deep-rooted evils in our economy that go back a long while. For the past fifteen years our nation's economy has been fed by billions upon billions spent on war materials. This also provided work on a temporary basis."

Local 659's campaign for the 30-Hour Week at 40 Hours' Pay parallels the drive by the huge Ford Local 600, which we reported last week. The Feb. 6 Ford Facts devotes a whole page to this issue, under the headline: "Need for 30-Hour Week — 40 Hours' Pay Grows Daily."

The Labor Dept. has since further affirmed this need by placing Detroit on its list of "distressed" areas with "substantial" unemployment — 8% of the city's entire labor force. The Feb. 8 Christian Science Monitor reports that Detroit Bankers "express some apprehension over the situation . . . The first crack in the 1929 boom appeared in Detroit."

BOSSSES GET TOUGH

The entire labor movement is expressing deep apprehension over unemployment generally. AFL President George Meany on Feb. 5 sounded the alarm at the "stiffening attitude" of employers everywhere because of the growing unemployment — the Bureau of Labor Statistics reporting 2,000,000 layoffs from mid-December to mid-January.

Meany said it has been his opinion "that all the weapons the Taft-Hartley Act put in their (employers') hands would be used against unions when a pool of unemployed began to develop. Our experience in the last few months indicates that this was a valid expectation."

This get-tough attitude of the



GEORGE MEANY



WALTER REUTHER

bosses is bolstered by the smear-drive of the McCarthyites and Republicans who now brand all references to depression as "communist."

Republican National Chairman Leonard W. Hall on Feb. 5 included CIO and UAW President Walter Reuther, along with Adlai Stevenson and Sens. Paul Douglas and Wayne Morse, as "left-wingers" and "reckless men" who ride "like the Four Horsemen, spreading doom and gloom across the land." Eisenhower called them the "prophets of gloom."

This is an ironic turn of events, because Reuther himself, last Labor Day, sought to discourage rank-and-file talk in his own union about the need to fight unemployment by decrying "dangerous and reckless talk of depression." He called it "false communist propaganda . . . being bolstered by the prophets of doom in the American business community."

Now Reuther is forced to answer this same red smear against himself. He asserts that "at no time will the CIO assume the posture of an economic ostrich, hoping that thus hard times will disappear."

CONGRESS OF LABOR

But more is needed than mere recognition of a fact of unemployment that has fallen on the CIO workers like a ton of bricks. It is necessary to take "POSITIVE ACTION IN THE NEAR FUTURE" to mobilize all labor through a National Congress of Labor. It is necessary to wage all-out fight for the 30-Hour Week at 40 Hours' Pay and to take independent political action for labor's program against unemployment by launching labor's own party.

"Why I Chose to Work" DETROIT PRESS SCORES NEW WITCH-HUNT BILLS

By H. Baker

Good Housekeeping for Nov. 1953 published what is for that glistening, slick-page, three-color magazine a revolutionary article by Gerry Murray Engel, "I Chose Work."

Mrs. Engel starts off by saying that she has returned to work and now she is alive. Six years ago when she left the job to have a child, she left "forever."

"When the subject comes up — and it does almost daily; ask any working mother — I find myself insisting it's best for a mother to stay home full time," she says, "and I believe it, intellectually anyway."

She refers to herself as not the least bit career-minded, with no driving talent as an actress or anything like that. She holds down an office job like hundreds of thousands of other women. If anyone had told her six years ago that she would be back at her job, she says she would have laughed in his face.

However, in the course of her article she proves that her basic outlook is really the opposite of what she calls her "intellectual" point of view.

Her way of seeking a cure was to go back to the job. And it worked.

"To begin with, the children seem better off. Instead of being under my thumb, they go to nursery school, where they get skilled supervision and learn to get along with a group."

"A second benefit of my working is the fact we see more of each other as a family than we did before."

"A third benefit is the added money."

The house is more efficiently run by a professional housekeeper and she and her husband, because they are relieved of routine duties, find more companionship in doing things together than they could with her tied down as housekeeper and mother.

Mrs. Engels didn't have to take a job. She had sufficient money to get competent help in her home. The solution of her problem was much easier than that of a working-class mother on whom the family income depends. But the fact that she felt a problem at all is an indication of the times.

go forward, seeking to achieve equality in the only realistic way — on the economic field. The time is ripe for professional experts who can best handle the inter-related problem of child care and housekeeping.

It would tremendously enrich motherhood and the companionship of marriage if women could freely participate in the economic life of the country. To make that possible, woman's two unpaid jobs, child care and housekeeping must be raised to the level of a community problem and solved through the joint efforts of all.

That of course is not possible under capitalism. But it will be one of the first points on the agenda of the coming socialist society.

The Holy State Of Matri-Money

Some 2,500 high school and college girls throughout the country were asked by the Gilbert Youth Research organization, leading market analysis firm devoted to sounding out views of young people, the following question: "What is the most important thing you will look for in choosing a mate?" They were asked to vote for one of four qualifications. Money won first place. Personality, disposition and physical attractiveness followed in that order.

HIT 5TH AMENDMENT

Another measure, already passed by the Senate and now before the House, provides for the firing of government employees who seek the protection of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution against prying into their personal beliefs or associations.

The legislature is also considering a bill that would confer one-man grand-jury powers upon prosecutors and their assistants. The law would enable them to

grab any citizen at any time and take him by force to a star chamber inquisition. Anyone who refused to answer the questions of such a star chamber proceeding could be then hailed into court and jailed for contempt.

"ONE MAN RULE"
An ordinance now before the Detroit Common Council would permit the Mayor to invoke "one man rule" any time that he thinks an "emergency" exists or may come into being. Obviously any major strike struggle or even the threat of one would constitute such an "emergency."

So reactionary is the nature of these and other proposed laws that even conservative papers in this area have felt constrained to speak out against them.

In a lead editorial the Detroit Times of Feb. 7 warns: "In almost every state legislative hall as well as in Congress, we note dangerous attempts these days to circumvent the Bill of Rights by subterfuge. Michigan is no exception. . . . Once accepted, the process could lead to a police state and the gradual end of constitutional government."

A Few Words With Meany

By Joyce Cowley

The recent National Anti-Discrimination Conference of the United Packinghouse Workers in Chicago declared that "the time has come for the complete elimination of the female wage differential" and they advanced a militant program to carry this out.

They not only demanded higher women's rates but also the elimination of the separation between "men's" and "women's" jobs. They called for integrated hiring and personnel policies to prevent job discrimination against women. They suggested that the tendency to "gloss over" women's problems be overcome by specially organized schools in the locals to explore such questions and provide a training ground for women members in practical matters connected with the operation of local unions. Locals were asked to schedule meetings at times and places accessible to women members whose responsibilities for shopping and preparation of meals make the hours immediately after work inconvenient.

That sounds good. It sounds like they're serious about giving women an equal break, and it contrasts sharply with a somewhat different position taken by AFL President George Meany. Rep. Frances Bolton, who has drafted a Congressional bill to require equal pay for equal work regardless of sex, received a letter from Meany telling her that her proposal was unwise and urging her to reconsider.

"The problem of establishing and safeguarding the principle as well as the practice of equal pay to women workers is properly within the province of collective bargaining and not police action by the government. When free collective bargaining is in effect we believe that more and better progress can be made by voluntary negotiations than by a law necessarily reaching deeply into the whole private system of wage determination."

This extraordinary statement reminds me of a captain of industry defending the free and inalienable right of scabs to take strikers' jobs. Surprisingly enough, Meany did not oppose a minimum wage law although I am sure this, too, interferes with "free collective bargaining." It's one of the few times that Meany has been concerned about the threat of police action by the government. He hasn't protested against the witch hunt or other repressive measures but suddenly when it looks like employers might be forced by law to pay women a fair wage for their work, he feels that our liberties and the "whole private system of wage determination" are in danger.

Right now, under this system of private wage determination, the paycheck of the average women workers less than half — 44% — of that received by a man. This is the kind of progress that Meany's voluntary negotiations have achieved. Meany also skips over the fact that 80% of working women are not members of unions and therefore receive no direct benefit from union wage agreements. They don't pay dues, so he is not concerned with legislation to protect them.

Proposition to equal pay legislation by the AFL, which covers 2,500,000 women members, would be a serious threat to its enactment. Mrs. Bolton conducted a poll and it was Meany who was the only major labor spokesman to support her bill. He assured her, however, that the AFL always has been for the principle of equal pay for comparable work.

Meany's principles won't buy any groceries for millions of underpaid women workers. The so-called leaders labor frequently betray the interests of the members they represent. This is not new, but it does jar you to see one of these "leaders" take a position even more reactionary than that of capitalist politicians. Republicans and Democrats at least give lip service to equal pay legislation although they consistently fail to pass it when bills of this type are introduced in Congress.

It's time the millions of women members in the AFL developed their own leadership. When they do, I imagine one of the first steps on their program will be to show Meany the way out.

The Slump -- Worse Than They Say

By Art Preis

Eisenhower made a classic understatement in his Jan. 28 economic report to Congress. Conceding that employment in January, 1954, is "somewhat lower" than in January 1953, the General opined:

"There seems to be a connection between this fact and the fact that in January, 1953, we were still fighting in Korea and we are not doing so today."

There is no mere "seeming" connection about it. Almost every one takes for granted that capitalist prosperity and war are closely, if not inextricably, linked. A cessation of military hostilities, as in the case of the Korean truce, is correctly viewed as the prelude to economic crisis. Eisenhower himself said during his election campaign that "whatever economic gains have been made since 1932 have been due... to war or to threats of war."

It is true that Eisenhower's statement was intended to knock the Democrats and to imply that the Republicans could maintain economic stability and growth without the dangerous stimulus of war inflation. Yet, in November, 1953, Eisenhower's Secretary of Defense C. E. Wilson, former General Motors president, assured his scared fellow-millionaires and billionnaires that war spending would not be cut to the detriment of their profits. He announced:

"The rumors that defense spending will be cut to such a point that it will adversely affect business aren't true."

Thus, enormous government war spending remains the main prop of the economy. It is central to the new Republican administration's policies, as it was to the previous Democratic regime's, despite Eisenhower's assurance that we are heading toward "a prosperity based on peace."

The total of federal government spending in fiscal 1954 will be \$70.9 billion, according to Eisenhower's budget. This is well over double the government expenditure in 1948. Of the nearly \$71 billion the government in-

there are now not less than four million jobs and the total is mounting rapidly."

That estimate was made when the available government figures, as of Dec. 12, 1953, admitted only 1,850,000 jobless. Even this conceded an increase of 648,000 within just two months. But the Census Bureau count on Jan. 9 added another 510,000 to the official jobless total, an admitted increase of 1,158,000 within three months. The Bureau now reports 2,360,000 unemployed all told, most of the increase resulting from construction and factory layoffs.

This government figure is of value only in indicating the trend and rapidity of the rise in unemployment. If we study the figures not only on those the government chooses to list as unemployed, but of the employed workers, we discover a revealing fact. The number of those with jobs fell nearly a million, at the last reported count, within the space of a month. Total civilian employment, reported at 60,764,000 on last Dec. 12, was estimated at 59,800,000 on Jan. 9. That is, there were nearly a million layoffs within 28 days.

Last June, just before the Korean truce, the Census Bureau reported 63,172,000 persons employed and 1,662,000 unemployed. Since June, the Census Bureau has reported a decline in the employed labor force of 3,372,000. If

we add the number of actual layoffs since June — 3,372,000 — to the number already laid off at that time — that is, 1,562,000 — we get the figure of 4,934,000 wage-earners who are not working now who would be working if jobs were available. And this makes no allowance even for the normal growth of the labor force of 750,000 new job-seekers annually.

The Census Bureau conceals the number of unemployed by claiming that a large number of the 3,372,000 who have lost their jobs since June are "not looking" for work and therefore are "withdrawn from the labor force." Those laid off with a "definite" promise of being recalled within 30 days are listed as "employed." These "employed" number, according to the Census Bureau, about 250,000. If they were properly classified as unemployed, the official number of layoffs since June would be increased to 3,622,000.

This slash of going on four million jobs in six months is a decisive fact, economically speaking, whether or not any or all of these jobless are "not looking" for jobs. Nearly four million less persons are securing incomes, except for those who draw the picaresque unemployment benefits. The loss of this number of jobs is a tremendous slice out of the purchasing power of the working class.

What Production Figures Reveal

The decline in production output tells a more significant story about the state of the economy, in some respects, than the employment figures. The real extent of production cutbacks may not show up in the number of those laid off. A cutback may be "absorbed" by all or a large number of workers in a given plant or industry simply by going on a reduced work-week, with corresponding cuts in take-home pay, or eliminating customary over-time. Workers cut to part-time employment of even a few hours a week are recorded as fully "employed" in the official government statistics.

The figures on industrial output, particularly for the basic industries like steel and auto, are especially revealing. Eisenhower's "mild readjustment" is already of a serious character in the most vital areas of production. The Federal Reserve Board's figure of a 7% drop in "overall" production from July to December, 1953, conceals far deeper declines in the key industries, which have the greatest specific weight in the economy.

A worker may figure he can still swing the price of a bottle of beer or two when he has abandoned his plan to get a new car, or home, or refrigerator, or TV set or even a badly-needed overcoat. By "averaging" a high beer bottle output with a low production of TV sets, we might get a more favorable-looking result than the real situation warrants. And that is precisely what has been happening when we get down to specific industries. In the durable goods industries — the very heart of the U.S. economy — production declines range from more than 20% in basic steel to almost 50% in television sets.

Let us examine, first of all, the steel industry, whose operations anticipate the activities of almost all other major industries. On Jan. 27, in declaring the usual

U.S. Steel quarterly dividend, the company's board chairman Benjamin F. Fairless, who claimed, "I still remain bullish," nevertheless announced that Big Steel will continue to operate at only 80% of capacity for the entire first half of 1954.

That's a slump in production over 1953 of a good 20% in comparison to the FRB's 7% "overall" drop. As for U.S. Steel's production in the latter half of the year, Fairless coyly declined a prediction. "I don't feel justified in going beyond the first half," said the "bullish" head of the monopoly that controls a third of the country's steel output.

U.S. Steel is more favorably fixed to glean orders and maintain production levels than its smaller competitors. The industry as a whole, for the week ended Jan. 30, was operating at only 73.9% of capacity compared to 97.7% in the corresponding week of 1953.

In spite of Fairless' "bullish" feeling, there is no present expectation that steel production will shift upward. Steel magazine reported on Feb. 1 that the industry's production is continuing at the slackened pace, although its spokesmen had previously expressed "confident" predictions of "improvement" after the first of the year. "Now that February is here," says Steel, "there is less confidence that the country's rate of steel finishing will be better than the January pace."

In the Pittsburgh steel area, according to the Feb. 1 N. Y. Times, the "bullish" feeling has evaporated to the point where there is actually "considerable worry" over "when the inventory correction will stop." Indeed, "it was believed that inventory correction was still far from complete" — that is, the market for steel is not expected to expand within any period now determinable by the steel moguls themselves.

Are Ford and Curtice Right?

Fairless' "bullish" sentiments have been echoed, with orchestral accompaniment, by his counterparts in the automobile industry, Harlow M. Curtice, president of General Motors, world's largest industrial corporation, and Henry Ford II, head of the Ford Motor Co. Ford claimed on Jan. 18 that unemployment in the auto center of Detroit "does not amount to a hill of beans." Curtice told a Waldorf-Astoria banquet in New York on Jan. 19 that the national economy "will be strong and healthy throughout the year" and GM is planning what the newspapers called a "billion-dollar bet against recession" — a billion-dollar expansion program for the next two years.

Ford's "hill of beans" is the biggest raised in Detroit since the depression year of 1940. As of Jan. 15, there was a loss of 84,000 auto jobs from the 1953 high in the Detroit area alone and the total number of unemployed was the highest in 14 years. By the last week in January, although Ford was slightly outpacing GM's Chevrolet in weekly car output, the Ford plants were shifting away from previous overtime schedules and a Ford spokesman was quoted in the Feb. 1 Wall Street Journal: "A runaway market just isn't in the picture; so we can keep up with the market and still use less overtime." GM went Ford one better; Chevrolet went into its first four-day week.

Ward's Automotive Report announced that Chevrolet, Ford and

Nor will other industries compensate for this decline in auto and steel. Housing starts, according to the National Association of Home Builders, will be down to an estimated 1,000,000 for this year, a 39.6% drop from the 1950 high and 11% below 1953. In January heavy construction (including commerce, government contract awards were 40% lower than in Jan. 1953.

For some industries, the declines have been verging on catastrophe. The Jan. 13 N. Y. Times reports the ship construction industry "at the lowest point... in well over a decade" and the Jan. 20 N. Y. World-Telegram describes shipbuilding as "in a severe unemployment slump." The television industry in December turned out only 496,000 sets, "barely half the total of December 1952," reports the Jan. 22 U.S. News and World Report. And General Electric, on the last day of January, indicated the TV outlook is not promising by laying off 2,150 employees in its TV division.

So far as the two key factors — production and employment — are concerned, the economic decline has gone far deeper and will continue longer than the Administration and Big Business leaders admit.

Report Mounting Sales Of Socialist Pamphlets

Striking successes are being registered in the sale of the three latest publications issued by Pioneer Publishers, according to a report from the publishers. The three new publications are The Case of the Legless Veteran, by James Kutcher (a full-size book of 178 pages, price \$1); America's Road to Socialism, by James P. Cannon, National Chairman of the SWP (80 pages, 35c); and McCarthyism: American Fascism on the March, a compilation of articles on the struggle against McCarthyism (16 pages, 10c).

The following excerpts from recent communications to Pioneer Publishers give a vivid picture of the intensive campaign activities being carried on around the sale of this literature:

Los Angeles. "The other night we sold 83 copies of the McCarthyism pamphlet at a meeting called to protest the discharge of a number of teachers by the L. A. Board of Education for refusing to submit to a witch hunt interrogation of their political beliefs and associations."

"A few nights before, we sold 37 copies to a Stalinist meeting at which Hallinan spoke before departing to serve his sentence on an income tax charge. Despite the efforts of four Stalinist hacks who tried to dissuade their followers from buying the pamphlet, a successful sale of both pamphlet and paper was reported. There were about 75 people at the meeting, so the sales average was very high. Thanks to the hacks, these were identified as Trotskyist publications to everyone... At a liberal forum one person sold 16 pamphlets in a very short period. At a union meeting of the Packinghouse Workers, 5 were sold."

"We have been testing out various types of meetings in order to gauge the response of various sections of the population. Beginning next Sunday we will have two mobilizations for house-to-house sales and thus get another test. In the process of 'testing' and before we have held a general mobilization we have disposed of about 250 copies... We are entirely out of the McCarthyism pamphlet, having sold all the original shipment of

300. Better send immediately 500 more copies, which together with the 200 now on the way will make 1,000 in all."

Boston. "Our campaign got under way yesterday with a mobilization despite the bitter weather. Jim and Lynn covered a Ford Hall Forum debate between James Wechsler and a local red-baiter by name of Mullins from the newspaper Traveler. We sold about 40 copies of the McCarthyism pamphlet — every copy we had brought. Could have sold half as many again — and on a less bitter evening a sale of 100 could have been expected."

Milwaukee. "Please send us 50 copies of Cannon's America's Road to Socialism. We have projected a campaign to sell 200 copies of this fine pamphlet in the coming period."

Similar enthusiastic reports have come in from numerous other centers, including Minneapolis and St. Paul, San Francisco, New York. These will be published in coming issues of the Militant for the information of readers who are participating in the struggle against McCarthyism.

Pioneer Publishers reports that the response to the pamphlet on McCarthyism far exceeded all expectations. In less than four weeks after publication the entire edition of 3,000 copies was completely sold out — the only copies still remaining being those in the hands of local salesmen. Plans are now under way for a new pamphlet with new material on the subject of McCarthyism.

The success of the book by James Kutcher, The Case of the Legless Veteran, has also been instantaneous. To date, 950 copies have been received from England, and every copy was immediately sold. Pioneer reports that they now have outstanding orders for nearly 1,000 more. Assurance has been received that large shipments of the book should be arriving any time now; this will make possible the resumption of local sales campaigns which unfortunately had to be interrupted because of the lack of books. Reports will be made in these columns on sales of this book at local union meetings, liberal and civic organizations, etc.

Cleveland Public Meeting
McCarthyism
What it is and How to Fight It
Hear
MURRY WEISS
One of the Country's Outstanding Speakers and Writers
Thursday, Feb. 25, 8 P.M.
16069 Superior Ave., 3rd floor

Twin Cities Sunday Forum
Hear a Socialist Analysis!
The Dulles-Molotov Berlin Debate
Its Meaning for the World's Workers
Speaker:
V. R. Dunne
Sunday, Feb. 21, 3:30 P.M.
10 S. 4th Street
Minneapolis — 2nd fl.
Questions, Discussion, Supper and Social Hour
— Admission Free —
All Militant Readers Invited

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NEW YORK
The Artist's Stake in the Fight Against McCarthyism
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Duncan Ferguson
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at 52 Market Street

Appeal to America's Artists

(Continued from page 1)

impression, as some of the speakers here have done, that the resistance of the artists and professionals and intellectuals can by itself "make 1954 the year of the end of McCarthyism."

But I remember some other things about Roosevelt too, things which don't quite qualify him for the label of either "liberal" or "democrat." I remember Roosevelt's role as strike-breaker against the miners during the last war. I remember the innumerable times while Roosevelt was in office that troops were called out to break up strikes by force and violence.

I especially remember that it was under Roosevelt and his supposedly "liberal" Attorney General Francis Biddle that 18 members of the Socialist Workers Party and a CIO Teamsters local in Minneapolis were indicted and imprisoned, under the infamous Smith Act, for their opposition to the war — the same Smith Act which is now being used against members of the Communist Party. (And by the way, I also remember — as no doubt many of you here do too — how at that time the Communist Party applauded and egged on the government in its persecution of these anti-war socialists.)

No, the artists will not be able to play any part in the struggle against McCarthyism if they help in any way to spread any of these illusions. It has to be clearly understood, and it has to be said, that NO section or wing of either the Democratic or Republican party can seriously fight against McCarthyism — and for a simple

reason: Because the struggle with McCarthyism is basically a struggle between the workers and the capitalists in the United States.

What then, beyond this general proposition of seeking and telling the truth, can the artists and intellectuals do in this struggle? What can we put forward as a program of action for artists who want to take part in the fight? I would like to suggest three ideas, as at least something to start with:

(1) As an individual, the artist must seize every opportunity possible to raise his voice against any and every encroachment of McCarthyism, and use every possible means of getting his voice heard. Specifically, if the occasion arises, he can emulate Einstein's position of unconditional non-cooperation, recalling the stirring defiance that Einstein threw in McCarthy's face: "Every intellectual who is called before one of the committees ought to refuse to testify, i.e., he must be prepared for jail and economic ruin, in short, for the sacrifice of his personal welfare in the interest of the cultural welfare of his country."

(2) Through organized forms, such as artists' groups and societies, the artists can do two things. First, conduct campaigns of education and propaganda to explain the danger of McCarthyism, as American fascism, to the entire cultural life of the country. Second, defend all victims of the McCarthyite witch hunt — since each victimization strengthens the forces of McCarthyism.

(3) Encourage and support

enough for the economy to do "just as good" as last year. It must do constantly better, merely to keep the same number of people employed. Improvements in the productivity of labor are automatically raising the output per worker by 3% to 4% each year — and with the new automation process productivity can be raised phenomenally in a short time. Less and less workers produce more and more goods.

In addition, the labor supply keeps mounting. With the growth of the population at 2,700,000 persons per year, the number of new workers entering the labor market is estimated at 750,000 annually.

The six months since the Korean truce have already demonstrated that even a slight reduction in government spending, especially in the war sphere, means a downside in the economy. To boost 1953 production just 3.7% over 1952, it required a rise in military expenditures of \$6,427,000,000 or 14.6% in one year. But a bare 3.1% drop in military spending has been paralleled by a 7% fall in national production from the July, 1953, high through December, 1953, according to the Federal Reserve Board. And the Board foretells a "slight further decline" for January.

To Eisenhower, this is just a "slight contraction in business" that is otherwise "marvelously prosperous by any historical standard." The economy, he assures us, is experiencing only a "mild readjustment" that "seems likely to be brief and self-correcting." Let us examine how "slight" this "contraction" has really been so far. If we know the true facts of economic life, it will help us to determine the reliability of the forecasts of Eisenhower and his Council of Economic Advisers about the alleged mildness, brevity and self-correctability of the economic decline that set in with the end of the Korean war.

First of all, Eisenhower has based himself on certain demonstrably falsified data, of which the figures on unemployment are the most significant. As I have proved in several recent Militant articles (Feb. 1, Jan. 25 and Jan. 18) the number of unemployed is actually double the pre-shrunk figures handed out by the U.S. Department of Commerce. In the Jan. 18 Militant, I showed that

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American Hitler on Tour

Two days after getting a triumphant 85-1 vote of confidence and \$214,000 appropriation from the U.S. Senate, the fascist demagogue McCarthy set out on a nine-speech lecture tour. The dominant feature of this tour was not so much what he said (the chief target of his "treason" charge this time was the Democratic and not the Communist party) as the circumstances surrounding the tour and the manner in which McCarthy was received. What these things add up to is striking evidence of an uninterrupted and rapid increase in McCarthy's political power.

Only three months ago the press and the air were thick with all kinds of reports about how Eisenhower, Brownell and the Republican high command were going to "outflank" the junior Senator from Wisconsin, "steal his thunder" and in various other ways cut him down to manageable size.

But McCarthy's tour this month was sponsored and paid for by the Republican National Committee, and its chairman Leonard W. Hall publicly interpreted this as "an endorsement" of McCarthy.

Three months ago Eisenhower said he hoped "communism" would not be the main issue in the 1954 elections. McCarthy contradicted him and said it would be the issue.

His tour this month was recognized by everyone as the opening gun in the Republican election campaign. As such, it set the tone of the entire campaign, and is being imitated by other Republican speech-makers. Needless to say, the issue is what McCarthy said it would be.

Instead of being cut down, McCarthy has been built up. He is the one who calls the tune in Washington on questions that relate to his main interests. Members of the Senate who are willing to oppose Eisenhower on some

issues duck or run when McCarthy challenges them.

A revealing aspect of most of the stops on McCarthy's tour was the way local Republican candidates flocked around him, scrambling for the honor of being seated on the platform with him, hoping fervently that McCarthy would say a few words in favor of their candidacy.

What a far cry from the 1952 election campaign when McCarthy skulked around Eisenhower's train, begging for a chance to be photographed with him, and when many local Republican candidates, worried about the consequences to their own chances of being elected, were putting pressure on Eisenhower not to touch McCarthy with a ten-foot pole!

Equally significant was McCarthy's calculated way of handling candidates seeking his stamp of approval. He stood aloof, studiously careful not to take sides between the competitors for Republican nominations. This is the traditional position taken by the leader of the party. McCarthy is consciously acting like the real leader of his party. And with good reason. Nobody in this party has greater power.

He obtained this power, and the likelihood is that he will obtain more, because his rivals and opponents in both capitalist parties agree with or are afraid to contest his fundamental thesis — that "communism" menaces America. Those who accept this thesis but complain about McCarthy's "methods" are brushed aside as ineffectual quibblers. Those who accept this thesis and then try to "take the ball away" from McCarthy by outdoing him as witch hunters only add steam to his drive for more power.

The growth of McCarthy's power is the most menacing thing in America today. It won't be curtailed or diminished until the labor movement sees this, says so, and suits its actions to its words.

Support Morton Sobell

Demonstrating again how strongly its decisions are influenced by the pressure of the witch hunt, the Supreme Court has for the second time refused to review the case of Morton Sobell, the young scientist now serving a 30-year sentence at Alcatraz on the trumped-up charge of "conspiracy to commit espionage" with the judicially murdered Julius and Ethel Rosenberg couple.

At the same time, the Supreme Court refused to consider a "friend of the court" brief submitted by a nation-wide group headed by the distinguished scientist, Dr. Harold C. Urey. The brief said in part: "The arrest, indictment and trial of Morton Sobell... in an atmosphere of hysteria induced by transient political and social passions, lacked guarantees of fairness which all Americans have a right to expect under the Constitution."

The correctness of this charge is demonstrated by a brief examination of the facts of the case. The Rosenbergs were convicted and sent to their death as spies on the basis of evidence so flimsy and questionable that it aroused world-wide skepticism and protest. In the case of Sobell the "evidence" was so much weaker that the government did not even dare charge that he actually committed espionage but rather that he "conspired" to do so.

Their proof of this contention boils down to the allegation, which they never even attempted to substantiate in court, that he had held five conversations with Julius Rosenberg for this purpose, and the testimony of one of Sobell's neighbors which purported to prove that Sobell had confessed the crime to him.

It Could Happen Here If --

For a refreshing contrast to life in the United States, we take you to Cambridge, England, where Dr. Hildegard Broda, a British citizen of Austrian birth, is an assistant medical officer for the county schools.

Dr. Broda married Alan Nunn May upon his release from prison. May is the physicist who was convicted of turning atom secrets over to the Soviet Union.

Recently Capt. A. C. Taylor, former Mayor of Cambridge and chairman of the local British Legion, demanded that the Cambridge County Council dismiss Dr. Broda. Citing her marriage to the convicted scientist, he branded her a communist.

By unanimous vote the Council rejected the demand. Each of the Council members rose to condemn it.

"A disgusting form of persecution," said one.

"I do not know if she is a Communist and I do not give two damns if she is. She is one of the best doctors we have," asserted another. "A filthy, dirty attack on an individual. Does Capt. Taylor want McCarthyism in this

The witness, Max Elitcher, told the court, "Well, he said, I don't know in what words, or implied that it had to do with this espionage business, but I don't recall the exact nature of the words."

That such "evidence" was crucial in Sobell's conviction is demonstrated by the presiding judge's charge to the jury which said, "If you do not believe the testimony of Max Elitcher as it pertains to Sobell, then you must acquit the defendant Sobell."

During the course of the trial it was revealed that Elitcher had a federal perjury charge flowing from a false signing of a non-communist affidavit hanging over his head, and faced a possible five-year jail sentence. Not without significance is the fact that he has never been prosecuted on this charge. It has also been widely maintained that the FBI was instrumental in securing him a high-salaried job.

That Sobell is the victim of persecution is further evidenced by his incarceration at Alcatraz, three thousand miles from his family and friends. Alcatraz, from which prisoners cannot be paroled, is traditionally reserved for hardened criminals who have escaped from other prisons and have long criminal records. Sobell fits neither of these categories.

A brief, requesting an investigation of the Attorney General's entire handling of the case, including the transfer to Alcatraz, has been filed with the Senate Judiciary Committee by the National Committee to Secure Justice For Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case. Such an appeal warrants the support of the entire labor and liberal movement of this country.

country? He (Taylor) is a traitor — a traitor to democracy," declared a third.

Virtually all the British press applauded the Council for its action. The widely read Daily Express commented, "Let every lover of freedom take heed of a splendid victory. It seems incredible that her job could be jeopardized for a moment. But human liberty is always being challenged. And those who would keep it strong must guard it continually."

A London correspondent of the N.Y. Times writes, "It is highly probable that such would have been the outcome in any of Britain's counties... the feeling that... 'McCarthyism,' even more than communism, is a poison whose importation into the British Isles would be traitorous, is probably widespread."

In England McCarthyism is rejected out of hand. There is a reason for it. While the American workers remain bound to the capitalist parties that spawned McCarthyism, the British workers have built a powerful Labor Party. Whatever its shortcomings, the very existence of that party has kept England free up to now of the McCarthyite scourge.

The Crime of Differing with Pablo in Public

By Joseph Hansen

The Pabloite faction in the Fourth International has issued its written "response" to the letter addressed from the 25th Anniversary Plenum of the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party to Trotskyists throughout the world which was published in the Militant of Nov. 16, 1953.

That letter called attention to the grave threat which the pro-Stalinist views and Stalinist-type organizational methods of Pablo and his cult constitute to the world-wide organization founded by Trotsky. It asked the orthodox Trotskyists everywhere to rally against the danger, remove Pablo and his agents, and replace them with cadres who have proved in action that they know how to uphold orthodox Trotskyism and keep the movement on a correct course both politically and organizationally.

The "response" of the Pabloites is what might be expected from a petty-bourgeois clique, utterly isolated from the masses and refusing to submit to the control of the proletarian majority of the organization. It substitutes verbal violence for calm analysis; it misrepresents and distorts the position of the orthodox majority; it deepens and affirms previous errors and adds new ones to the list; it seeks to cover up its political difference with the program of Trotskyism; it makes a fetish of organizational forms; it insists on the untouchability of the cult head; it displays subjectivity and panic in every line.

I shall endeavor to prove this to the hilt, beginning in this article with the central theme of the "response"; namely, the "unspeakable" crime of anyone daring to make public any differences with the genius-like Pablo, the irremovable secretary of the Fourth International.

First, let us consider the authorship of the "response." The Pabloites say it is a document of

the "Executive Committee of the Fourth International." This claim is a cover-up for what is in reality nothing but a polemic written by the leaders of the Pablo faction.

The Executive Committee elected by the Third World Congress of the Fourth International no longer exists. It was destroyed by Pablo through abuse of the post with which he was entrusted by the Third World Congress. Nine members of that body, through factional manipulation, were "expelled" by Pablo. The six, possibly seven, members who met with Pablo and called themselves a "Plenum" of the Executive Committee were all simon-pure Pabloites, personally hand-picked and approved by the head of the cult. This faction meeting authorized a sub-committee to draw up a "response" to the Open Letter of the SWP in the name of the "Executive Committee of the Fourth International."

How factional the meeting was can be judged from one eloquent fact. Comrade Peng, the Chinese member of the Executive Committee, was not even notified of the gathering although he was the only representative of the entire colonial and semi-colonial world in position to attend.

If the Pabloites had really considered that their meeting was a genuine plenum of the Executive Committee, then they were duty bound to rise above narrow factional considerations and see to it that the Chinese representative was present. They did not do that. Thus they gave fresh confirmation to the charge levelled by the SWP National Committee in its Open Letter: "The Pablo faction has demonstrated that it will not permit democratic decisions truly reflecting majority opinion to be reached. They demand complete submission to their criminal policy. They are determined to drive all orthodox Trotskyists out of the Fourth In-

ternational or to muzzle and handcuff them."

Following this experience, Peng wrote a lengthy letter to James P. Cannon, National Chairman of the SWP, summarizing several years' first-hand observation of Pablo's methods. Here is the gist of it, as well as his opinion about the SWP's Open Letter:

PENG'S CONCLUSIONS

"... But the extremely unfortunate thing is that the IS has been entirely controlled and usurped by Pablo who utilizes this 'legal apparatus' to arrogantly proceed with the organizing of his conspiracy by arbitrarily excluding his opponents from the IS and secretly setting up his own clique or faction with the aim of seizing the leadership of a section or splitting the organization.

"This has rendered impossible any normal discussion according to the principle of democratic centralism, and thus obliged the SWP, led by Cannon, to adopt this exceptional action of today, to publish the Open Letter demanding the expulsion of Pablo and his agents from the International's leading organ.

"This is really unprecedented in the history of our international movement, and is an action of revolutionary nature. This action has become necessary not only to crush Pablo's attempt at usurpation, but also to gain time in which to rescue the movement, and to reorganize and coordinate it in time to confront the approaching new world war and revolution. If the mobilization of this struggle should be prolonged until the explosion of the Third World War, it would be too late."

To this it must be added that the Pabloites put their revisions of Trotskyism in the public press. They did not wait for a Congress at which their novelties could be discussed and debated and a decision reached in a normal fashion. They went to the public

with a whole series of positions opposed to Trotskyism and the major decisions of the Third World Congress. This action left the orthodox Trotskyists with no choice but likewise to take their position to the public.

As Peng concluded from on-the-scene observation, it became necessary to make public the struggle against the Pablo faction in order "to rescue the movement." This, to the Pabloites was an "unspeakable" crime. Listen: "Why didn't the leadership of the SWP act... according to the rules of normal functioning of every revolutionary organization? Why did they prefer to all at once address themselves to the public at large and publicly betray the cause of international Trotskyism? This crowns in a certain measure the unpunished acts of the majority of the SWP, because this tramples underfoot the supreme principle of Trotskyism: proletarian internationalism."

NOTHING TO HIDE

Now it is quite true that in the "normal functioning" of a Leninist-type organization in general, it is not necessary to disclose differences to the public. But this is not because there is anything to hide. "Normally" the working class public addressed by such an organization prefers not to have to consider such matters. And since "normally" a combat party like the SWP is under no great pressure to make the working class public aware of how it reaches decisions and resolves differences, little is said about it although much could be learned by many workers about revolutionary politics and organization, and their immense superiority over anything in the bourgeois world, if the party were large enough and powerful enough to devote a section of its press to these questions.

But when "normal functioning" is disrupted and great and decisive questions affecting the whole future of the working class are in dispute, then it becomes necessary to carry out what Peng correctly calls "an action of revolutionary nature." That is, ask class-conscious workers to consider the issues in dispute. The benefits of the faction struggle as a schooling in Marxist politics are thus extended far beyond the confines of the party.

The interest that is aroused among advanced workers over the faction struggle in the party is completely legitimate. What higher concern can they have in this epoch than concern over the health and welfare of the party that represents their fundamental interests?

It is only the Stalinists, and those who think like them, who hold to the abominable "supreme principle" of concealing vital differences from the working class. If you have crimes to hide, naturally you don't want them dragged out into the light of day. And it is because they have something to hide, something they are ashamed of, that the Pabloites scream about the faction struggle being made public.

The majority of the Fourth International and its well-wishers, such as the Socialist Workers Party, on the other hand have everything to gain from putting the orthodox Trotskyist side of this struggle on the public record. This meant, of course, that we also had to acknowledge errors we had made, particularly in siding with Pablo, despite serious doubts, against the majority of the French section of the Fourth International when he arbitrarily expelled them. But that is the only way you can learn from errors. To turn them to positive advantage you have to acknowledge them.

"SAFEGUARD." WE SAI D — NOT "SPLIT"

The Pabloites take this perfectly clear and legitimate action of ours and misrepresent it. They say that it means we think the Fourth International is "finished," that it has "betrayed." Therefore that our action in making public the issues in dispute constitutes a "split."

First of all, the SWP cannot split from the Fourth International because, due to a reactionary law, it does not belong to it. But nowhere in its Open Letter or anywhere else did the SWP call on Trotskyists to "split" from the Fourth International. On the contrary. It called on the orthodox Trotskyists to organize a factional struggle to save the Fourth International.

The Open Letter specifically asked the orthodox Trotskyists throughout the world — not to split — but to "safeguard the administration of the affairs of the Fourth International by removing Pablo and his agents from office and replacing them with cadres who have proved in action that they know how to uphold orthodox Trotskyism and keep the movement on a correct course both politically and organizationally."

Naturally we recognize Pablo's right to disagree with this and to fight to retain his post. But we do not recognize his "right" to

take our clearly stated position on how to "safeguard the administration of the affairs of the Fourth International" and misrepresent it as holding the Fourth International is "finished" and that Trotskyists must "split" from it. That is dishonesty. And what is the source of this dishonesty if not the factionalism of the Pabloites? Isn't that a typical symptom of a petty-bourgeois clique motivated by subjectivity and panic?

A DEADLY PARALLEL

It is worth noting what political blindness can be caused by factionalism of this type. The Pabloites did not even observe the deadly parallel with the opening stages of Trotsky's great struggle against Stalinism. At that time he did not consider the Third International "finished." But he brought the struggle into the open as best he could under the brutal conditions imposed by the Stalinists and this was considered by the bureaucracy to be one of his major "crimes" although it was their actions and their search for a "fresh approach" to "living reality" that forced Trotsky to make the struggle public.

The Stalinist faction wanted to muzzle and handcuff Trotsky, keep him quiet while they proceeded methodically under cover to cut up the Left Opposition and smash it. Meanwhile in public the Stalinists themselves hacked away at the program of Marxism, beginning with revisions and ending with betrayal.

Perhaps the Pabloites did not wish to recall this analogy, for they too, like the Stalinists, while demanding that the opposition keep its differences under wraps, publicly advanced their own new variety of revisionism. It was this political course of theirs, revealing differences with orthodox Trotskyism of far-reaching implication, it must be emphasized, that made it impossible to avoid a public struggle. As Peng correctly observed, Pablo "rendered impossible any normal discussion" and thus "obliged the SWP" to take the exceptional action of publishing the Open Letter.

(To be continued.)

New Setbacks Hit Invade Of Indo-China

(Continued from page 2)

after the Republicans beg, boast of ending the Korea is a decision the White House not likely to make light, though some of the tops in Pentagon and McCarthyite elements in Congress are pressuring for the U.S. to leap into Indo-China with both feet.

Aside from considerations of broad strategic diplomatic and military aims, which now appear to dictate a "stretch-out" of the war preparations and a more prolonged build-up for war against the Soviet Union and China, the Indo-China nut would be hard for U.S. imperialism to crack.

After four years of trying to set up a "native" army to carry the brunt of the struggle for them, the French have recently suffered large-scale defections to the Vietminh forces. Thus, Joseph and Stewart Alsop report in their Feb. 3 column in the N. Y. Herald-Tribune:

"And now there has come bad news of large scale defections by Viet Nameese pro-French army units in the supposedly pacified territory near the southern capital, Saigon. These Viet Nameese army defections to the Communists seem to have been wholly voluntary, without any serious preliminary fighting. They come after the affair of Bui Chu last September, when raw Viet Nameese units surrendered en masse when attacked by smaller Communist forces."

Tillman Durbin, N. Y. Times correspondent in Saigon, wrote on Feb. 3 of the loss in South Vietnam of more than "two-score" defense points to the Vietminh "as a result of defections."

Eisenhower in an indirect way acknowledged in his press conference on Feb. 3 that the Indo-Chinese do not support France and its puppet-emperor Bao Dai. He conceded under questioning that the situation in Indo-China was "critical" and added that the "heart and soul of the position" was always the big factor in a situation like Indo-China. A few hours later the State Department felt it necessary to have an "explanation" released that the President "in no way wished to reflect on the fight being waged by the armies" of France's native puppets.

The American people want no part of the war in Indo-China. They must demand of the government: "Not a cent, not a gun, not a man for the Indo-China war!"

Rift in the Yugoslav CP

By R. Garrive

Milovan Djilas, theoretician of Yugoslav communism, expelled from the Central Committee! An unexpected event, but one which does not leave the bourgeois commentators speechless: "Djilas, you see, is censured because of the way he criticized the bureaucratic snobbery of the wives of Yugoslav leaders toward a former actress." Or else: "He's a democrat being persecuted by a communist dictator who is returning to his previous errors: look at the self-criticism that poor Djilas was forced to make."

What is the heart of the question? That Djilas sought to appear as the champion of the struggle against the bureaucracy is obvious. That he is qualified for such a role is another matter. A precise judgment on the Central Committee's decision can be rendered only after examining its minutes, the speeches of Kardelj and Tito in particular. But the essence of the matter is already clear enough: The Yugoslav Communist Party as a whole reacted against the tendency to dissolve it, to liquidate it, a tendency in the service of which Djilas had employed his "theoretical" pen, explaining in the pages of Borba and Nova Misao that a communist party was good only for taking power and not much use afterwards.

He is certainly no isolated phenomenon. For years now the political pressure of imperialism has been bearing down on the whole Yugoslav leadership. Before even thinking about investing capital, imperialism must at all costs remove the danger presented by the existence of a communist party independent of Moscow. Imperialism has of course laid down its conditions on precisely this point; it has also provided its Social Democratic agents who, while touring Yugoslavia, waxed eloquent against the "one-party system." The Yugoslav leaders have partially yielded to this pressure, playing the dangerous game of camouflaging the workers state with bourgeois democratic trappings. As long as the party remained in the way, however, no gains made by reaction were solidly guaranteed. Djilas was at this point already politically ripe to try going to work on his own party. He made the attempt and ended in failure.

WHY HE FAILED

Why did he fail? We could easily point to a whole series of old and fresh clues showing the resistance of the Political Bureau, or more exactly of Tito personally, to Djilas' bold opportunistic sallies.

The current represented by Djilas thus either prevailed inside the Political Bureau or else was accepted and tolerated by the other leaders. Why did the crisis boil over into the isolation and crushing of Djilas? It is probably the result of a polarization of political forces in Yugoslavia. It was observable more than once what a powerful boost the internal bourgeois forces received from the new foreign entanglements and the rightist orientation of the government and the party. A few months back there even turned up a bourgeois deputy, thinly disguised as a defender of the peasants, who openly protested against the limitation of land holdings to 25 acres. Djilas adapted himself more and more to these reactionary forces who were crawling back out in the open. Other leaders, more deeply attached to the revolutionary achievements, must have become alarmed.

But the outcome would have never been so sharp if not for the intervention of the party rank and file. The publication of Djilas' articles was inconceivable without a favorable, or at least tolerant, "climate" in the party press and leadership circles. When the PB in its statement of censure claims to have "taken into account the discontent of the militants" the conclusion is plain that this discontent actually tipped the scales against Djilas, which had made itself felt some months ago in a protest movement against the liquidation of the "zadrugas" (peasant cooperatives) is the most encouraging feature of the Yugoslav scene in 1954. It certainly counted heavily in the decision of the Yugoslav CP leadership to apply the brakes.

But putting on the brakes, in and of itself, leads nowhere. The former communist partisans, justly proud of their achievements and disturbed by the present sorry mess, have every right to turn to their leaders and tell them: WHAT IS NEEDED "You have saved the party from those who want to destroy it — good. You have reaffirmed the need for the party in the framework of proletarian democracy — better yet. But it isn't enough just to reaffirm that need; it has to be justified by the party's fulfilling its role of vanguard. Yet all you have been doing these past several years is to put us at the vanguard of the liquidation of a whole series of revolutionary conquests. Is it any wonder that after all of that the ensuing demoralization should produce people like Djilas? "The necessity of holding our ground against the combined forces of imperialism and the Stalinist bureaucracy does not in any way justify unprincipled capitulations which have even reached the point of condemning New China. In reality, you have been free of Djilasism yourselves. And today Djilas, even though expelled, is still a danger. He is on the road to becoming the most serious candidate for the post of hero of the Yugoslav restorationists, left vacant by the inglorious death of Draza Mihailovich. To remove the causes of Djilasism, a party is needed, one which actually plays its role of communist party. With Djilas now out of the way as a theoretician, the party must be completely rearmed, through the democratic preparation of the 7th Congress of the Yugoslav Communist Party."

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(Translated from La Verite, French Trotskyist paper.)

Pvt. Clifford Hamp, a Korean war veteran, who was brutally beaten by a New York policeman when he attempted to visit his mother in a Harlem hospital, has moved in the Supreme Court to increase his damage suit against the city from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000.

The Negro Struggle

By Jean Blake

The Rejection of Mrs. Beulah Whitby

Events of the past few weeks in Detroit provide such a classic example of what happens to social reforms in a period of reaction that they should be carefully studied throughout the country.

The bare facts, as reported in the Michigan Chronicle of January 30, are as follows:

Mayor Cobo rejected Mrs. Beulah Whitby for appointment to the post of director of the Detroit Commission on Human Relations because she is opposed to Detroit's policy of segregation in public housing.

Mrs. Whitby was chairman of the Community Service Division of the Detroit Urban League.

Mayor Cobo said he did not believe she should have served as chairman of a committee which was fighting segregation in public housing. He said further that she should not have permitted the committee to pass a resolution supporting the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in its suit against segregation.

Edward Turner, president, and other representatives of the NAACP met with Mayor Cobo Jan. 22 to discuss his rejection of Mrs. Whitby, his refusal to appoint a director of the Commission on Human Relations who advocates non-segregated public housing and the effect of his attitude on the functions of the Commission.

According to NAACP representatives, the Mayor "heatedly refused to be pressed on the issue of 'open occupancy' in public housing. He told the group he would not disturb existing racial patterns in housing. He indicated, however, that he favored integration in new housing projects as long as it did not 'disturb' the community in any way."

NAACP spokesmen concluded from their interview with Cobo that he looked on the Commission on Community Relations as a "control measure" for Negroes, and implied that good race relations to him existed when there were no frictions or complaints.

On Jan. 26, NAACP President Turner resigned as a member of the Commission, charg-

ing that the Mayor's policy of segregation was in violation of the U.S. Constitution and Michigan laws.

Those are the bare facts. From them the Negro community of Detroit has learned several important lessons:

(1) Jim Crow rules Detroit through Mayor Cobo.

(2) The establishment, by ordinance, of the Commission on Human Relations was an empty reform; worse, an institution for sabotaging the struggle against discrimination since its function is to soft-soap Negroes, not to remove the conditions against which they protest.

(3) Regardless of laws and the attempts of "respectable" pro-capitalist Urban League and NAACP leaders' attempts to make the "democratic process" work, the dominant "American way" — in the North, as well as the South — is segregation and second-class citizenship for Negroes.

There is one further lesson that should be seen in the Detroit experience: It is not an isolated incident. It is part and parcel of the growing social crisis. With more than 100,000 unemployed in Detroit alone, many must begin to question the capitalist dogma that we live under the best of all possible systems. Class rule becomes more open and naked as it throws aside its democratic camouflage, including sweet talk about "human relations."

The first step taken by the Negro leaders — resigning and withdrawing support from the Human Relations Commission — was correct. The next step is to resign from all agencies of the government. At the same time it is necessary to recognize that reliance on court fights against segregation is not enough. Mayor Cobo and his class do not respect the law; they make laws and institutions to keep the oppressed in check.

The victims of discrimination must join together — black and white — and organize a counteroffensive before naked capitalist rule reaches its most brutal form, a Jim Crow Fascist America.

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Los Angeles Press Incites Violence on Mexican Youth

By David Dreiser
(First of two articles.)

In recent weeks the Los Angeles Herald Express, one of two Hearst papers in the area, has taken the lead in a campaign which it admits is intended to promote action against Mexicans here like the Zootsuit riots of 1943.

The Herald, followed by most of the daily press, has coined the term "rat pack" to replace "Zootsuits," and advocates use of "the lash and the club" against teen-age neighborhood gangs.

This campaign is particularly ominous now in view of the support the Hearst press gives McCarthyism.

Here are typical headlines: "Smash Rat Pack Killer Mob; Citizens Demand," "Heart of City Invaded by Rat Pack Killers."

Such thinly veiled incitements to lynch violence are ostensibly based on what Hearst calls a "series" of crimes by juvenile gangs.

In a summary editorial the Herald was able to refer to two cases of assault and one killing in a month's time in this thickly populated area. During this same period ordinary murders, robberies, assaults and other crimes occurred scores of times.

How did three or four incidents become a crime wave? For only one reason: all were committed by Mexican youth, a handful of juveniles and young adults out of Los Angeles' Mexican population of nearly half a million.

In response to just one of these crimes the Herald editorialized: "The lash and the club would do a lot of good with these irresponsible hoodlums. . . It is time to

take off the gloves and let these criminals feel the mailed fist. . . We have become 'too soft' . . . (give the) Los Angeles police . . . a free hand."

The similarity between this treatment and the campaign of lynch hysteria in the press which preceded the June 1943 riots is amply apparent, but the Herald didn't want anyone to miss the point. A few days later, they concluded an editorial with the reminder that "Not too long ago the Herald-Express did its part in creating sufficient indignation to crush the Zootsuit gangsters."

According to a former Hearst reporter, this campaign was ordered directly by Hearst from his San Simeon palace. It resulted in a wave of terror, with mobs of sailors roaming through the Mexican districts beating and stripping Mexicans at sight and invading peaceful homes in search of victims.

This is what the Los Angeles press would like to duplicate, only today there are all the sinister implications of organized fascist motivation. They are not just interested in selling papers; they want blood to flow in the streets of Los Angeles.

Part of the motivation is to prepare the ground for action by Ku Klux Klan and Gerald L. K. Smith followers and other fascist elements as part of the process of building up McCarthyism.

Like the Nazi press in Hitler's time, they also have in mind the need to find a scapegoat. In Los Angeles, one of the first obvious targets among the minorities is the Mexican community.

(Next week: What to do about it.)

"McCarthy Type"



J. Parnell Thomas, former chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, has announced his intention to seek re-election to Congress from New Jersey. Thomas said Feb. 8, "One thing the Republicans need in Congress is fighters of the McCarthy type and the past has shown that I can fill that category." His past includes an 8 1/2-month stretch in a Federal penitentiary for padding his Congressional payroll and extorting kickbacks from his employees. He was granted a "Christmas" pardon by Truman in 1952.

Snooper



A. A. Beres, head of the Norwalk, Conn., Veterans of Foreign Wars, defining a "subversive" as "one who goes around town and sort of shows a point of view against our churches, schools, or system of government," won national notoriety when his VFW post was revealed to have set up a secret committee to ferret out such "subversives" and turn their names in to the FBI.

Seattle Unions Hear Roberts Score Red Hunt

SEATTLE, Feb. 6 — The campaign of Daniel Roberts, Socialist Workers Party sponsored candidate for the Seattle School Board, got under way in earnest this week when the candidate began a round of speeches at local union meetings.

Roberts spoke at five meetings this week. He had already spoken at his own union local, Boxmakers Local 2635, AFL, last week.

One of the union bodies Roberts addressed was Local 81 of the Meatcutters, AFL, whose international secretary, Patrick Gorman, has taken a stand in favor of McCarthy.

Roberts spoke there against McCarthyism and for the reinstatement of Mrs. Hughes, whom the School Board had dismissed from the school system for refusing to divulge her political views.

He stated: "I don't know if Mrs. Hughes holds to the line of the Communist Party or not. She refused to divulge her views before the School Board, and I believe that in so doing she was fully within her rights. If she is a Stalinist, then I know I disagree with her fundamentally. But I am opposed to firing any teacher for his or her political views. There must be freedom of thought and speech in the schools."

DEFINITE SYMPATHY

Roberts' appearance before the Meatcutters was the most dramatic of all his union appearances to date. There were a number of articulate red-baiters in the crowd who wanted him to stop before his time was up. But at the end Roberts was highly gratified when fully a third of the audience of over 100 gave him a hand. In the face of the red-baiters' pressure, the applause was more than a mark of politeness. It indicated definite sympathy for his stand for free speech.

Speaking later that evening before the executive board of Local 119 of the Longshoremans, Roberts concluded by stating:

"The menacing rise of McCarthyism on the one hand and the alarming growth of juvenile delinquency on the other point to one inescapable conclusion: There is mass dissatisfaction and restlessness in the country — a genuine crisis of perspectives — and change is on the order of the day."

"The smug, conservative slogan of the Democrats, echoed by the official leadership of the labor movement, that 'You never had



DANIEL ROBERTS

it so good' has gone into discard once for all.

"The all-important question confronting America is the following: What shall be the nature of the change?"

"Will McCarthy — America's would-be Hitler — feed on this discontent as he is now already doing, especially among the middle class, and become strong enough to take power in this country?"

"Will he thereby be able to smash the unions and the Negro organizations, regiment the youth, and plunge the country into a hydrogen-bomb war on behalf of America's 60 ruling families?"

"Or will the labor movement rally all the oppressed and discontented to a banner of insurgency that will smash the rule of Big Business forever?"

"Fascism or socialism; slavery or freedom — these are the alternatives confronting America. The answer as to which will prevail must be given by the working people of this country — especially its organized members."

"By building a Labor Party, the working people of America will unfold a resolute course of political struggle that will end the menace of war, depression, and fascism and transform America into a land of peace, freedom, equality and plenty."

"You Are Not Afraid"

By Joyce Cowley

That's what Miss Sylvia Porter says. "Talk mounting unemployment and deepening recession is all around you yet you are not afraid about your own individual outlook. And that includes even you who are feeling 'it' where it hurts — in the pocketbook."

Miss Porter has been traveling around ttry talking to people. "From a job-penter in California to the chairman of the world's greatest corporations—I no fear of the 1954 recession."

he unemployed she interviewed: "Not id accumulated any savings worth men-g, all had wives and children to sup-each admitted he owed money. 'Are you ried?' was the question I asked."

Apparently all of these jobless men told her that in spite of having no money to feed their families or pay the rent, they were not worried. It makes me wonder if the people she talked to were mentally deficient.

Any psychologist will tell you that fear of real danger is a normal emotion necessary for the preservation of human life. If you're afraid of fire, for instance, you'll take measures to prevent fires and to put them out when they

occur. The absence of such fear would have disastrous consequences.

I don't know just how Miss Porter put her questions or how she interpreted the answers, but I'm sure that any sane man who has lost his job, who has no savings and plenty of unpaid bills, is worried.

I haven't talked to him myself, but I'm willing to bet that the chairman of one of the world's greatest corporations is worried, too. If not, he must be crazy. This corporation chief isn't thinking about his rent. He has bigger problems. He is faced with two terrifying alternatives — another depression or another war, and he probably doubts that modern capitalism will survive either one of them.

In this respect the jobless worker has an advantage. He's afraid he can't pay his bills but he doesn't lie awake nights wondering if the capitalist system will survive. He's got more to worry about right now but in the long run he has more to hope for, too.

Unlike the big-time executive, his personal destiny is not bound to a dying social order. He has a stake in the socialist future of mankind.

DEMOCRATS JUMP WHEN M'CARTHY CRACKS WHIP

(Continued from page 1)

the minimum duty facing Senators who were elected as self-proclaimed liberals and anti-McCarthyites. But only one member of the Senate (Fulbright of Arkansas) voted No, and he did it without explanation. The others — including Lehman of New York, Humphrey of Minnesota and Morse of Oregon — all voted to give McCarthy more money to attack them. This constituted nothing less than a vote of confidence in McCarthy and his methods.

Why? Because they were afraid not to. These windbag, who are so fond of making "fighting" speeches at labor conventions and Americans for Democratic Action banquets, shiver when ever McCarthy even scowls at them. He knows their number. All he has to say is that he will attack those who vote against him as "communist agents," and they run like rabbits.

Two days after their capitulation McCarthy started out on the first of the many speaking tours he will make in connection with the 1954 elections. His theme was "Twenty Years of Treason" (by the Democrats, whom he had just bludgeoned into giving him a vote of confidence).

The Senate vote was a test of strength. It confirmed what we have been telling the American people — that McCarthyite fascism is strong, and growing stronger all the time (despite all of Eisenhower's and Brownell's so-called moves to "outflank" it). But the other side of the test was even more revealing. It also confirmed how weak the Democratic and liberal opposition to McCarthyism is — now fatally weak, panicky-stricken, unreliable and worthless.

These are the men whom the leaders of the labor movement have told us we must support if we want to stop McCarthyism. But who can have any confidence in the Lehmans and the Humphreys after their miserable exhibition on Feb. 2? From now on, whenever Walter Reuther or George Meany tell the members of the unions to help elect Democrats, the members ought to answer:

"What for — so that they can vote to give more money raised out of our taxes to a would-be dictator to use against us and our rights and our organizations? If these people don't even have the courage to VOTE against McCarthy, how can anybody count on them to FIGHT against him?"

That is how the liberal and labor leaders acted in Europe too. In Italy they tried to duck a showdown with Mussolini, pinning their hopes on the king, who turned around and invited Mussolini to take power.

In Germany they were afraid to fight Hitler themselves, and they prevented the workers from fighting him by telling them to support the militarist President Hindenburg, who turned around and invited Hitler to become dictator.

In Spain, where the liberal and labor leaders controlled the People's Front government, they were afraid to crack down on Franco when he began to organize his fascist conspiracy in the army, waiting until it was too late and he had launched the rebellion that ended in a fascist victory.

Depending on the Democrats and liberals to stop McCarthyism is as futile as trying to stop a tank with a fly-swatter. They are paralyzed with fright of him, and they either don't know how to fight him successfully or they don't want to.

What's needed is a rejection of the McCarthyite-Trumanite lie that the American people are menaced by communism and an understanding of the fact that the real menace they face today is a fascist movement that is gaining strength at an alarming pace.

What's needed are men and women who recognize that fascism is something that can't be compromised with, or run away from, or wished out of existence; who realize that their stake in the fight against fascism is total; and who are prepared to act accordingly.

What's needed is the mobilization and united action of those who have the greatest stake in the fight against fascism — the labor movement, the racial and religious minorities, the young people.

What's needed is the repudiation by these groups of the two-party system that produced the present witch hunt and of the two capitalist parties that have embraced McCarthyism, whether enthusiastically or reluctantly.

What's needed is a new political party, an independent Labor Party that will run its own candidates for office, oust both the old parties, take over the government and operate it in the interests of the majority of the people.

What's needed is a new political program, providing a clear alternative to imperialist war, unemployment, high prices, Jim Crow, thought control, insecurity and the other evils and ills of capitalism — a program that will really solve the problems that McCarthyism demagogically exploits in order to recruit a mass following.

To satisfy these needs is the No. 1 political task of 1954. The Socialist Workers Party, already engaged in this indispensable work, solicits the cooperation of all other forces with a stake in the fight against McCarthyism.

M. N. ROY, a former Indian revolutionist who participated in founding the Third International, died at Dehra Dun, India, Jan. 25, of cerebral thrombosis. After Lenin's death, Roy became a Brandlerite — a right-wing formation that was expelled in 1929 by Stalin. Roy continued to drift toward the right until during World War II he ended up in the camp of British imperialism.

How They Ganged Up on a POW Who Wasn't 'Tortured' by Chinese

When Corporal Edward Dickenson, after electing to stay with the Chinese, changed his mind and decided to return home to America, the Army utilized his switch for a major propaganda appeal to the 22 GI's who continued to refuse repatriation.

One Army message to them said in part: "Cpl. Edw. Dickenson returned home to his loved ones and enjoyed a combined thirty-day leave and honeymoon. This fact explodes the Communist charge that you or your loved ones will be harmed if you return."

Within a few weeks after Dickenson returned, the Army demonstrated how much trust could be placed in their propaganda. They hauled him up for courtmartial.

This vengeful doublecross of Dickenson is but one sordid chapter in the story of what has happened to returned POW's who dare to express views opposing the reactionary U.S. policy of intervention in the Korean civil war. Another chapter in that story is told in the Jan. 30 issue of the liberal weekly, the Nation. It is the story of 25-year-old former Corporal Benny Smith, of Memphis, Tenn., as told to Milton Lowenberg.

On his return to Memphis with an honorable discharge, Benny was extended a hero's welcome by the press, radio and TV. Today he is the victim of a fierce campaign of vilification, slander and intimidation.

Of what crime is Benny Smith guilty? He is not a communist. He is a self-educated young working man whose political views boil down to the idea that capitalism is in need of improvement, and that there are things to be learned from communism. He calls himself a "progressive." He refuses to lend himself to the

propaganda campaign about "atrocities" committed by the Chinese. This is his crime.

His story of life in a Chinese prison camp bears little resemblance to the tales of "brainwashing," enforced indoctrination, and other forms of pressure allegedly used by the Chinese to win over POW's.

The physical treatment of the prisoners was good, he says. They were permitted to set up their own mess, sanitation, library, recreation and camp affairs committees. Food was of the same quantity and quality as provided by the U.S. Army.

When the Chinese first began the "political orientation" lectures, with attendance compulsory, the men did not object to going to them, Benny says. In fact many were really interested, particularly in the discussions that followed. But as the lectures tended to become repetitious, interest began to wane.

The Chinese said they were making lecture attendance compulsory to protect those who wished to attend from possible victimization from those who opposed the lectures. It was "progressive" POW's, Benny maintains, who convinced the Chinese to make attendance voluntary. After that attendance varied with the speaker and subject.

But in time pressure mounted on those who continued to attend lectures. "For one thing," says Benny, "a lot of guys got scared when they began to learn things about our country that they never knew before — about political persecutions and the like. Guys who had been hot pros at the beginning, signing petitions, making broadcasts and all, started weakening. The more the Chinese talked about McCarthy, or the Smith Act or the K.K.K., or the

reactionary press, the less they cared to be seen attending classes."

When Benny returned to Memphis, he was interviewed by the local press for a story on the tortures inflicted in Chinese prison camps. His statements that he considered his treatment by the Chinese good, and that he could report no atrocities, was sufficient to bring on threatening letters and phone calls.

WITCH HUNT BEGINS

Soon one of the local papers was running a series on how Benny had "turned his gaze on a way of life strange to America — strange, evil and powerful," and hinted that "at the end of the road there may even lie treason."

When Benny threatened a libel suit the formulations were switched to "a changed and distorted perspective about the American way of life." The proof — Benny's contention that people who chose the communist path had a right to do so. A "clear admission of guilt" was Benny's belief that fascism is a greater menace to America than communism. That showed "he was anti-fascist, not anti-communist." The series brought on a new avalanche of accusations and threats. He was pressured to work for the FBI to prove his "loyalty." The VA sent him to a psychiatrist.

He has been informed that a national magazine is preparing an "expose" of him. Hanging over his head is a summons to appear before the witch-hunting Velde Committee. His chances for a job are now slim.

That's the story of Benny Smith so far — the story of the crucifixion of an honest young man who dares to dream and speak of his conception of a better America.

Notes from the News

CHECK AND DOUBLE CHECK. A new Alabama law requires that the author of any school text book must submit a statement as to whether or not he is a member of the Communist Party or any other organization on the Attorney General's "subversive" list; or an advocate of Communism or Marxian Socialism. Such a statement must also cover the author of any work recommended in the text for supplementary reading. Any book listing any author coming under the proscribed classification can be rejected on the appeal of any taxpayer.

PITTSBURGH STOOLIE MOVES UP LADDER. Mat Cvetich, the notorious FBI stoolpigeon, built up as a "hero" by the witch-hunting capitalist press for his unsavory role in railroad members of the Communist Party to prison for their political opinions has announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination in Pittsburgh's 28th Congressional district.

THE NOTED LIBERAL WEEKLY magazine, the New Republic, faces a financial crisis which may jeopardize its continued publication. From its inception the magazine was subsidized by major contributions from the Straight-Whitney family. Their contributions, which averaged \$25,000 a year since 1914, came to an end in 1953. In an appeal for financial support, the editors point out that despite doubling of circulation in two years to 33,000 the magazine is presently published at a deficit of \$1,500 per issue. An estimated contribution of \$78,000 is needed to assure publication through 1954.

RED FLAG FLIES IN KANSAS CITY. A patriotic citizen demanded action from the Kansas City school board when he spotted a red flag flying in place of the American flag over a local school. The school principal explained that the U.S. flag was not up because of bad weather and that the red flag was a warning to the children to come into the building and not play outside. "We've been using that storm signal for sixteen years," she said, "and this is the first time we've been accused of un-Americanism."

THE USE OF NEGRO STRIKE BREAKERS by the Hat Corp. of America in Norwalk, Conn., was succeeding in fanning anti-Negro sentiment among the strikers who are mostly white, until the Nat'l Ass'n for Advancement of Colored People intervened in the situation. NAACP representatives persuaded a number of the Negro strike breakers — many of whom were victims of discriminatory practices that made it difficult to obtain jobs elsewhere — to leave the plant. The NAACP says it expects to get the rest of the strike breakers out in a short period.

ANTI-SEMITISM CHARGED by N. Y. witch-hunt victim, Maurice Kurzman, a N. Y. high school teacher suspended for his refusal to answer questions in the current Board of Education witch-hunting excursion, declared to the Board: "It is no accident that most of the teachers who have been called before this inquisition have been of the Jewish faith. I maintain that this investigation is definitely anti-semitic." Kurzman, who holds that the Board has no right to enquire into his activities outside of school, was described to the Board by a school official as a "top notch teacher."

A WAGE HIKE FOR THE ARMED FORCES has been urged on Congress by the CIO United Auto Workers. Such an action, the UAW wrote would be "timely, inasmuch as another committee established by Congress is presently advocating pay increases of 50% and over for members of Congress, members of the federal judiciary system and holders of other high governmental positions."

FAIRY TALES FOR ILLINOIS "ADULTS ONLY." The Illinois Secretary of State has ordered the public library system to stamp the words "This book is for adults only" on a list of books including Pilgrim's Progress, 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, Jane Eyre, Girl of the Golden West, and the fairy tales of Hans Christian Andersen. The stamping was ordered to "make it impossible for school children to obtain smut."