

Fiasco in Waxer Case Exposes 'Security' Fraud

By Bob Himmel

DETROIT, Aug. 29 — Since the Army's monumental boner in the "undesirable discharge" case of Sanford Waxer, officials from the Pentagon on down have been nervously trying to duck responsibility and pass the buck elsewhere. Public ridicule aroused by the case has weakened the effect of the whole witch hunt program in the eyes of a growing number of people.

Waxer was separated from the Army in May, 1955. Despite an "excellent" Army record, the Army tried to give him an "undesirable" discharge because of his "associations."

One of the Army's main charges against Waxer was that he had associated with Dr. Alfred Kelly, "a contributor to and a supporter of the American Youth for Democracy," an organization that is on the attorney General's "subversive list." The fact is that Kelly, who is Professor of History at Wayne University, headed a committee in 1947 that investigated the AYD and succeeded in having it banned from the campus.

The conservative Detroit Free



Apprentice seaman Norton Pierre Gaston (top) chose the wrong mother, according to the Coast Guard, which withheld his commission after he graduated with honors from the Coast Guard Academy. He was charged with having associated with his mother, Mrs. Jean Grisez (bottom), accused of having joined allegedly subversive organizations.

Press pointed out, "If this is a sample of the way our military intelligence operates, what confidence can we have in it now in regard to any matter of national safety or security?"

A hunt is now in progress for a scapegoat who can be held responsible for an "unfortunate error." This hasn't been easy. No one wants to take responsibility or seems to know from what source the change originated. Henry Edens attorney for a Senate sub-committee investigating the Government's security program sought to place the blame on the Army. He accused the Army of "throwing charges around and then running for cover."

Army Secretary Brucker wanted no part of it however. "I am not familiar with the case," said Brucker. "The charges were made before I was appointed secretary."

When Pentagon officials were approached by newsmen, they likewise disclaimed any knowledge of the affair. They pointed the finger at the Fifth Army in Chicago who, they said, had jurisdiction over the case.

No, the responsible person wasn't there either. According to Major Lane, public information officer for the Fifth Army, "the decision that the Professor was associated with the wrong people wasn't made by the Army; it was made by some other agency." And anyhow, said Major Lane, "it is not up to the Army to prove any charges against Kelly. We only function under Army regulations and we do not have the authority to investigate people outside the Army."

So the hunt went on. News-men began a careful search for the "other agency" that had supplied the Army with the misinformation about Dr. Kelly.

All the agencies that were approached, however, emphatically denied having had anything to do with it — all, that is, except one. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, the government's most highly touted and infallible investigator of "subversives," alone made no denial. When asked they replied with a characteristic "no comment."

As the case stands now, Dr. Kelly is slated to appear before a Senate sub-committee today. There is no doubt that he will come out of the hearing with his name fully cleared and with an abject apology for an "unforgivable error."

But what about Waxer, who is slated for an "undesirable discharge" and stands to lose his chance to continue his schooling and also his hope for a career? And what of the thousands of other victims of the witch-hunt smear who are not quite as prominent as Dr. Kelly?

Plans to "Atomicize" U.S. Army Revealed

By Shirley Clark

AUG. 31 — Many people throughout the world have awaited the work of the United Nations Subcommittee on Disarmament with the hope that atomic war can at last be made impossible. However, if we ignore the pacifist fanfare of the participants and look at the opening terms of the negotiations, we will see that the U.N. conference is serving quite different purposes.

On the second day of the meeting, Aug. 30, Harold Stassen revealed part of the proposals that the U.S. delegation is submitting to the conference (the full text was kept secret). There is nothing in these proposals concerning actual disarmament. Stassen announced in a tone of magnanimity that the U.S. State Department was ready to incorporate Soviet proposals on arms inspection into Eisenhower's Geneva demand for an unlimited aerial survey of military installations. That means the U.S. is agreed to the posting of on-the-spot inspection teams at key military points.

The basic demand of the Soviet Union has been for the complete banning of all nuclear weapons. While the U.S. State Department formally accepts this as the final objective, it has used the technical problems as an excuse to block Soviet proposals. Stassen's terms, unaccompanied by suggestions for at least reducing armaments or nuclear build-ups is hardly a serious concession.

Clearly the Capitalist rulers of the United States are prepared to step back in their preparations for World War III. Time is needed in the hope of consolidating capitalist positions politically, economically, and militarily. But there has been no fundamental change. There is only a change in timing.

Eventually even a measure of disarmament may be agreed upon. But this will not mean an end to the threat of war and militarism. Armed forces as they exist today are obsolete in the nuclear age. The militarists must step back in order to catch up with technological advances.

According to Joseph Alsop, Herald Tribune, Aug. 29, the Joint Chiefs of Staff have before them a program called the "Operations and Plans Division of the United States Army." The plan calls for the atomizing of the Army. It involves a complete overhaul of conventional conceptions, techniques and equipment.

Alsop also reports that the cost of this transformation of the armed forces is staggeringly high. "To atomize our seventeen under-strength divisions is estimated to cost no less than \$2 billion annually for a period of several years, with a heavy maintenance charge thereafter."

British Tories Want More Unemployed

By John White

LONDON, Aug. 25 — "So long as present circumstances in the labor market persist Britain is faced either with eventual bankruptcy through inflation or with early bankruptcy through widespread strikes."

The above quotation is from the leading article in last week's "Economist" — that staunch defender of British capitalism, and an internationally-known politically and economic journal. The article was headed "Wages or Prosperity?" and discussed the growing number of wage demands that are being raised by British trade unions.

The "Economist" is alarmed at the relationship of this rising "torrent of claims" to the unstable foundation of Britain's inflationary boom which is being currently revealed.

The share of British capitalism in world trade is declining; a continuous rise of prices at home is giving advantages to her competitors on the world market; and gold and dollar reserves are steadily weakening.

ROOT CAUSE

The "Economist," Big Business spokesmen, financial editors of the daily press, and the professors of capitalist economics are firmly agreed that the root cause of these growing economic difficulties are "high and rising wages" and that the living standards of the working class will have to come down.

In their discussions they are underlining the correctness of a conclusion which Marx drew many years ago — that an industrial reserve army of unemployed, a "surplus working population," is a vital necessity for capitalism. It is the "continued excess of demand of labor over supply," they one and all declared, which is a basic factor behind this continuous rise in wages, taking place at a time when labor costs should be cut to defeat inflation, meet fierce foreign competition and maintain profits.

Nobody, of course, opposes full-employment, they piously declare, but . . . what we have now is over-full or brim-full employment which means far too great a bargaining power is possessed by the worker and which curtails the elasticity of the economy by giving a worker unwarranted possibilities of refusing jobs.

After all, they continue, we have now less than one per cent of the labor force unemployed. Lord Beveridge himself — who drew up the plan for post-war full-employment — defined two to four per cent as constituting full-employment. On that definition we can have a million unemployed and still be entitled to talk of full-employment.

Complains Professor Paige, writing in the Financial Times Annual Review of Industry: " . . . our main competitors in export markets, including the United States and Germany, seem to be prepared to accept as consistent with full-employment a considerably higher unemployment ratio than exists in this country."

MORE JOBLESS NEEDED

The "Economist," during the past few weeks has been among the foremost campaigners for an increase in unemployment. Unemployment, it believes, would aid the government to cut the

(Continued on page 2)

Jobs Swept Away



A 5-foot wall of rushing flood water roared through the factory section of the industrial city of Woonsocket, R.I. when three dams collapsed under the raging torrent. Workers in this textile dyeing and finishing center feared many factories would never reopen. [See editorial page three.]

WORKERS IN CHILE FIGHT THE RUNAWAY INFLATION

AUGUST 30 — The working class of Chile is waging another tremendous strike battle for economic survival in the midst of a raging inflation that has reduced wages

below the subsistence level. The current strike wave is spearheaded by government workers, who comprise an important section of the working class in Chile as in the other economically underdeveloped countries of South America.

Approximately 60,000 workers have struck in what the reactionary government of President Carlos Ibanez has called an "illegal" action and "sedition plot." The strikers are holding firm in the face of mass arrests.

TROOPS IN SANTIAGO

Thousands of troops have been rushed to Santiago, the capital, for use against the strikers. Arrests of strike leaders have steadily mounted. On Aug. 28 148 strike leaders were imprisoned. It is reported that another 46 men and 10 women strike leaders are being grilled by police behind locked doors. They face long prison terms or banishment to remote, disease-ridden sections of the country under Ibanez's "law for defense of democracy."

When arrests of leaders failed to head off the strikes, the police resorted to mass arrests. On Aug. 29 police cordoned off whole blocks in Santiago around strike meetings and arrested over 1,000 health and welfare strikers.

The Chilean labor federation (C.U.T.) has called for a mobilization of its 1,000,000 members Sept. 3 to force immediate release of all strike prisoners.

All government services are paralyzed by the strikes. Those who include the country's tax collectors, employees of the Treasury, customs and port workers, national health service workers, social security system workers and others. Municipal workers, numbering about 15,000, have served notice on the government that they will strike unless they have been granted the necessary cost-of-living wage increase by Aug. 31.

So far only some 5,000 workers from private industry — bank employees — are on strike. However, 45,000 seamen have

declared they would go out Aug. 31 unless their wages were boosted.

WILD INFLATION

The strikers are demanding wage increases of 60 to 100% to make up for the disastrous drop in the purchasing power of their pay. Inflation has been running wild in Chile for several years. In 1954 the cost of living rose 78%. The government claims that in the first six months of this year it has risen only 37%. Actually the purchasing power of the Chilean peso in the last six months dropped 84%.

The Ibanez government, which is the tool of the native landowners, capitalists and foreign investors, has tried to prevent workers from getting wage increases to make up for the vanishing value of their pay.

In the battle against inflation-starvation the Chilean working class has engaged in repeated militant battles. Sixty thousand transport and communication workers struck at the beginning of July in the face of martial law. Previous battles saw the introduction of the sit-down strike to the country, marches of miners, and student protests against the government's violation of democratic rights.

In the Chilean Congress President Ibanez has demanded the proclamation of a state of siege, which would make him a military dictator for putting down the strikes. A majority of the Congress has protested to the Supreme Court that police will not allow even them to talk to the arrested strikers.

Every strike struggle in the inflation-ridden country has run up against the opposition of Ibanez with his police and military power. Thus removal of Ibanez is necessary. That is a political task. Yet because of Stalinist and Social-Democratic influence over the unions the strikes have been so far restricted solely to economic struggles.

Harvester Strike Sets High Mark in Solidarity And Workers' Militancy

Both Indecent

Vice-President Nixon was correctly called "indecent to his fellow Americans" by Democratic National Chairman Paul Butler, who cited as evidence Nixon's signature on a real estate restrictive covenant against Negroes, Jews and Syrians. Butler, however, has not uttered a peep against the racism of the Southern Democratic Party, many of whose leaders not only sign such covenants but back the Ku Klux Klan and the White Citizens Councils.

New Local Leadership Emerges in Upsurge Of Rank-and-File Action

By Howard Mayhew

CHICAGO, Aug. 25 — Strength, unity, solidarity and militancy, all in a measure greater than ever before, are the words that best sum up this strike that involves 40,000 Harvester workers who downed tools upon the expiration of their contract August 23.

Some 24,000 had already walked off by Monday, Aug. 22, and some as early as four days ahead of the time set. The reason for this show of militancy is explained in statements by the presidents of the five Chicago Harvester locals of the CIO United Auto Workers.

Tractor Works, Local 1301, President P. Neputy said: "The workers got tired of speed-up, low wages, lousy seniority and jumped the gun. They intend to stay out until their plant issues are settled along with their national issues."

McCormick Works, Local 1308, President Charles Kelly said: "For two years the McCormick Works have been listening to the company boast how it broke our strike in 1952. Our people have endured piece work, price cuts and low wages for skilled workers for two years. They just got a little in a hurry to show the company that this is one strike, starting today, that the company won't break."

McCormick Works, Tool Room, Local 1101, President Ed Bulatt: "I'm not crossing any picket line even if it is a day early. For two years Harvester has refused to pay skilled workers what other corporations do. As far as the skilled workers in McCormick are concerned, the strike is on."

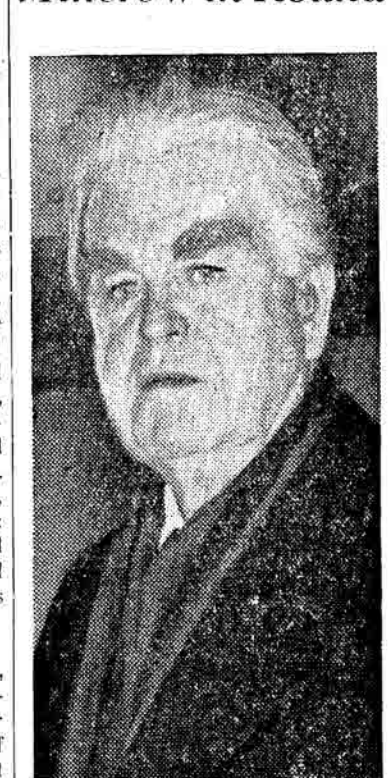
McCormick Works Office, Local 1012, President Joe Ranski: "As far as the office workers are concerned, the company is trying to make them second rate citizens in the new contract. Their answer will be to observe picket lines and stay out until they win." Officials of Local 1302 and Local 1303, UAW-CIO, the two other office and technical units at McCormick, said they supported Ranski's position.

Tractor Office, Local 1382, President George Walton said: "Tractor office workers should go along with the shop and stick together on the picket lines until we win our demands."

NO RETREAT IN '55
As one strike bulletin put it, "Harvester workers are determined that 1955 will not be a year of retreat." Mass picket lines of thousands sprang up the first day. At the same time, the strike leaders already have under discussion plans for financial and food relief to be put into effect at a later date when and if needed.

The unprecedented unity and solidarity of the Harvester workers is the only explanation for the union's newfound strength. These in turn were stimulated

Miners Win Round



United Mine Workers Pres. John L. Lewis negotiated biggest round of 1955 cash increases for 120,000 bituminous coal miners in Northern states. They will get \$2 a day raise within the year — \$1.20 Sept. 1 and 80c. next April 1. Most Southern soft coal operators fell in line with the agreement.

Many Workers Suffer Despite Record Boom

By Myra Tanner

Are you working too hard? Is your job dull and uninteresting? Are your vacations too short and too infrequent? Is it difficult to meet payments, house, clothes and educate your children like you want?

Well — you are now living under capitalism at its best. There is no war at the moment. The depression hasn't hit yet. Production continues at a record pace. But if you're working steadily and somehow getting ahead — or even getting along — you're better off than millions of other Americans.

Even with "free enterprise" at its perkier, things are pretty miserable for an awful lot of people. In the July-August issue of the Economic Outlook, published by the Department of

Education and Research of the CIO, is a survey of the "distressed areas" that plague the country.

While general unemployment climbed in 1954 to 5% of the civilian labor force out of jobs, compared with 2.1% in May 1953, July of this year still recorded 3.7% unemployed. This figure, however, does not reveal the fact that there are some areas where chronic depression is suffered.

The Department of Labor surveys of unemployment are inadequate, but in July, 1955, it reported that "substantial" unemployment — at least 6% of the labor force reported idle — still existed in 31 of the 149 major labor-market areas. In 12 the jobless rate exceeded 9%; in seven it was over 12%.

In addition, unemployment exceeded 6% in the 101 smaller

labor-market areas in which a count was made. In some of these the jobless rate runs as high as 20%.

These distressed areas, number-

ing 132, are located in 32 of the 48 states. Almost half of them are termed by the Dept. of Labor as areas with a "chronic labor surplus."

Attempts Suicide After Being Evicted

Tragedy followed the eviction of two New York families on Aug. 26 — one in Brooklyn, the other in the Bronx. Mrs. Pauline Pappas, 26, mother of three, returned home after a day of hunting for an apartment. She found her furniture on the sidewalk guarded by a cop. Police later found her unconscious body in her empty, gas-filled apartment. The city marshal evicted them because Pappas had failed to pay a month's security to the land-

lord. The second tragedy was the eviction of a family of ten from a three room apartment in the Bronx for violating housing space ordinances. Thomas Ryan, the father, asked, "Where can we go? No one seems to want to rent to a family our size. We'll just have to store our furniture and break up the family." Requirements of the law were met. But the problem of the Ryan family remains.

Economic Outlook summarizes the Department's findings: "Thus, in 67 major and smaller areas — located in 25 states and in Puerto Rico — persistent and substantial unemployment is not only chronic and continues today even in the midst of unparalleled national prosperity; but in addition, there is no foreseeable end to the depression in these communities."

In Johnstown, Pa., 20.7% of the labor force has been unemployed since 1953. Lawrence, Mass., has had 22.6% unemployed since 1951. Terre Haute, Ind., is also a chronic depression area with 13.6% unemployed since 1951. These examples indicate the extent of unemployment and the length of time it has been tolerated.

The human tragedy that goes hand in hand with these areas blighted by depression can be

partially seen through the story of an auto worker in New Jersey which came to the attention of this writer. He was born and raised in the mining town of Pottsville, Penn. For many years he worked nights and on weekends. He built a home in the town where he worked and where his father had worked before him. When he finished his after-hour building, the mine closed and he lost his job. He couldn't sell the house for anything near its value, for the town had become a "ghost" town. Now he is an auto worker and must start from scratch.

Yet this worker is not one of those who figures in the statistics of the hundreds of thousands who have not been able to escape depression towns and are trying to survive on inadequate supplies (Continued on page 2)

The World Race For Atom Power

By Robert Chester

It is generally recognized that the International Conference on Peaceful uses of Atomic Energy, recently concluded in Geneva, opened a new era in science. However no scientific achievement is divorced from social relations, and this conference was no exception. Despite the declarations of good will a new form of international competition for penetration of Europe and the colonial world emerged.

The scientific benefits of the conference cannot be overestimated. For the first time, delegates from 72 nations contributed toward forming a unified, integrated body of knowledge, speeding advance in all fields of research and application of man's latest and most potent tool. A great section of the curtain of secrecy has been ripped aside, giving all countries access to use of the atom.

"BREEDER" REACTOR

Major discussions centered on the use of atomic energy as a source of power, and comparison of the various types were made public. Projected is the new type of "breeder" reactor, which produces in process more fissionable material than is consumed. Thus an unlimited source of power can become available opening magnificent vistas of industrial expansion for those countries now starved for power.

Lines of research were sketched out in the following: the use of "fusion" reactors, H-bomb type energy releases, as a source of power as well as for vehicles; the use of radioactive isotopes for industry and medicine; induced mutations to provide a whole new galaxy of useful plants; the study of basic plant and animal processes; the study of human tissues, especially those of the brain; and a host of other fields of profound interest to science.

The Conference was first suggested by President Eisenhower and rapidly agreed to by the major powers. With the conclusion of the Conference a deep current of opinion arose from all countries that perhaps here was the path to a world of peace, mutual aid and understanding. An examination of the fact shows that this is not the case.

What impelled the United States to change its previous course of top security secrecy to one of frankly revealing much of its atomic know-how? The main reason was the diplomatic switch from "cold war" to "initiators of peace."

In addition there were some impelling economic reasons that induced this change. After investing billions of dollars in a huge atomic production plant the Defense Department found itself with a stockpile of bombs that could rapidly become obsolete. Unless new fields could be opened

the vast productive enterprise would grind to a halt and become unproductive. This necessitated a turn toward peaceful applications.

RESEARCH RACE

Another impelling motive was the international race in research between the U.S., the Soviet Union and Great Britain which prevented any easing in the pace of research. International competition also implied the danger that other countries, in need of atomic energy, might turn to the Soviet Union or Britain for aid. The potentialities are so great a field for economic investment and penetration that Wall Street could not allow any competitor to get there first.

Therefore, when the decision was made to initiate a conference, Washington went into it with the enthusiasm of a sideshow barker. It sent over a huge delegation of experts, complete with an atomic reactor and a campaign to win the market. The British were even a step ahead of the U.S. They functioned at the conference, as one newspaper report put it, "like salesmen with their order books ready."

The U.S. sample reactor was sold to the Swiss Government for \$180,000 and the material, U-235 at \$25 per gram. An agency of atomic energy of atomic energy, composed of Western European countries, the U.S. and Canada was set up outside the auspices of the United Nations.

Arrangements are underway to send reactors and train personnel for other participating countries, thus building a "western bloc" of atomic energy users. Once the bloc is consolidated the competition for penetration of the colonial countries will undoubtedly begin. On the other hand the Soviet Union is preparing to supply China and the Eastern European states.

TENSIONS REMAIN

It becomes clear that the main effects of the Conference on "peaceful" uses of atomic energy are the opening of a new economic war which will at a future stage serve to intensify a new war drive.

Thus the Conference, which was ballyhooed as a means of eliminating world tensions, lays the basis for intensifying tension. The great achievements of science have always been appropriated by the capitalist class for its own narrow interests. Atomic energy is no exception.

"Give 'em Hell" Speeches Stirs Democratic Party Faction Fight

By John Thayer

Harry S. Truman broke the calm of national politics last week with three "give 'em hell" speeches. At French Lick, Indiana, he declared: "It, the Eisenhower administration, is dominated and controlled by Big Business — which it allows to plunder our natural resources. It has let farm prices fall lower and lower. It has done little or nothing for labor."

Those disappointed with the record of the Democratic-controlled Congress, he urged "not to attack both parties indiscriminately and cry 'A plague on both your houses!'" Instead they should get out and elect more Democrats to make up for those Democratic senators and representatives "who stray away" from the liberal-labor program on crucial issues.

FACTION STRUGGLE

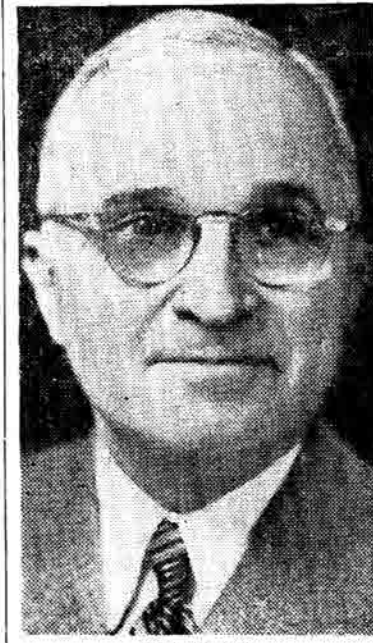
Truman's attacks on the Eisenhower administration are in direct conflict with the "we cooperate better with Eisenhower than the Republicans" line of the Democratic Congress and mark the re-opening of a bitter pre-convention factional struggle inside the Democratic Party.

One important section of the Democratic Party does not want to campaign hard against Eisenhower in the 1956 election; indeed, there are indications that it will drag its feet to insure Eisenhower's re-election. This is the powerful Southern wing.

The reasons for this apparently paradoxical desire to lose the presidential election are not hard to find. When the Democrats control Congress but not the White House, Southern Democrats are in the saddle. The one-party system of Southern politics gives them the seniority to control Congress.

If, however, there is a Democrat in the White House, the presidential power overshadows

over, a Democratic president would not be a Southerner but a representative of the Northern Democratic party, subject to the pressure of the big city machines and labor. The economic and



TRUMAN

and overrides their own. More political interests of these forces clash with those of the Southern ruling class.

A Republican administration is much closer in its social outlook to the Southern Democrats. Deals can be made with the Republican administration for patronage arrangements in the South. All in all, Southern Democrats find control of Congress and a Republican president most advantageous.

BOODLE AND PATRONAGE

The big city machines of the North, however, aren't in national politics for their health or for public service. The boodle and patronage from cities and states aren't enough to support them in the fashion they desire. They want control of the White

House and the tremendous federal patronage.

Similarly the labor movement, which contributes tremendous financial and voter support to the Democratic Party wants a Democrat in the White House, hoping thereby to mitigate the anti-labor character of the federal government.

Therefore the issue of the internal struggle in the Democratic Party is, and has been, whether to fight Eisenhower or to go easy on him. This battle was fought out immediately after the 1954 elections in which the Democrats won majorities in the House and Senate. It ended with a complete triumph of the Southern wing and ignominious surrender of the North.

An attempt by Adlai Stevenson's man, Paul Butler, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, to put a little fight into the Democratic 84th Congress was decisively defeated by the Southerners. The power and prestige of the Democratic National Committee declined disastrously. Afraid that further pressure would provoke another Dixiecrat or pro-Eisenhower split in 1956, Stevenson, himself, went onto the defensive, lapsing into silence or unobjectionable platitudes in hopes of placating the Southern wing of his party.

The Democratic 84th Congress, save for such minor things as upping Eisenhower's minimum wage proposal ten cents and liberalizing a housing bill, was remarkable for its do-nothing record and its pro-administration line. Democratic senators and representatives, out to catch the labor vote, were slapped down by the Southern leadership. They soon gave up the fight.

Now, however, the presidential campaign is less than a year away, and the Northern sections of the Democratic Party are trying to inject some life into the party's propaganda. This is why Truman, a repre-

sentative of the big city machines and, according to the misrepresentations of the labor bureaucrats "a great champion of organized labor," has been brought forward in an attempt



EISENHOWER

to commit the Democratic campaign to a vigorous campaign against Eisenhower.

Prospective Cop Insists His Brain Is Washed Clean

Alfred Aresco has asked the New York Supreme Court to order the New York City Police Department to confirm his appointment to the police force.

Aresco says the cops turned him down because his father had signed a Communist Party nominating petition for Peter V. Cacione, successful candidate for the City Council, in 1939.

Aresco was nine years old at the time. His father says he didn't know Cacione was a Communist candidate.

Twin Cities SWP Sets Up New Plan Of Organization

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 21 — The Twin Cities branches of the Socialist Workers Party met here today in a joint membership meeting to consider the work of the organization during the next period. In a move calculated to strengthen the party's plans for political campaigns in 1956 a consolidated branch was formed with headquarters in Minneapolis.

The meeting opened with the induction of new members. The main report was given by Dorothy Schultz and the organizational report was given by Fanny Carter.

Vincent R. Dunne, was designated organizer of the new Twin Cities branch which was formed by the merging of the St. Paul and Minneapolis branches. Dunne, who found it necessary to be in California, wired the following greetings to the meeting:

"Our organization is designed to serve revolutionary ends. For that purpose we now depend available forces the more effectively to further our program of education and action for socialism. . . Forward to the work of the day, always with our eyes on future triumphs. A socialist America in a socialist world."

Vincent Dunne is nationally known as one of the pioneer leaders of the socialist movement. In the Thirties, together with a group of other socialists and militant unionists, he led the famed Minneapolis truck drivers strikes which led to the organization of a powerful union movement in the entire area.

DOBBS SENDS GREETING

Farrell Dobbs, who is now National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, also sent greetings to the meeting. He expressed the confidence of the national organization in the work and prospects of its Minnesota section which has written so many glorious pages in the history of American Trotskyism.

Dobbs, also, is one of the original leaders of the militant strike struggles of the Minneapolis teamsters. After playing a key part in the successful strikes of 1934-36, Dobbs broadened his work as a union organizer and led the drive to unionize the over-the-road drivers in an eleven-state area. Under his leadership 250,000 workers were brought into the union and defeated the powerful trucking interests. Dobbs resigned his position in the union in 1939 to become Labor Secretary of the SWP and later its National Secretary.

The new Twin Cities SWP branch has mapped out a vigorous program of political activity aimed at broadening the base of party influence in the period ahead.

...Suffering Despite Record Boom

(Continued from page 1)

of government surplus food. With prosperity still going strong, the laws of competitive capitalist economy have wrecked havoc no less devastating or costly than the recent flood disasters.

In some communities fund campaigns have been organized to attract new industries. In Mauch Chunk, Penn., a "Nickle-a-Week Plan" was started in the hope of raising enough money in five years to attract new business.

In Lawrence, Mass., the mayor set up a Citizens Industrial Committee and authorized the use of \$50,000 a year to canvas prospective industries. Later \$150,000 was raised from public and private sources to provide credit, build new plants and reconvert old ones in the hope of luring a few bosses.

Lowell, Mass., appropriated \$40,000 a year from tax funds for the same purpose. Wilkes-Barre, Penn., raised \$700,000 for its "Operation Jobs."

But these false and futile measures have not solved the problem. Even if the working class would want to subsidize the capitalists to keep them in business, it cannot. The rapid acceleration of the monopolization of U.S. capitalism will continue to wipe out smaller business, impel runaways in search of cheaper labor power and drive living standards to ever-lower levels.

What is the solution proposed by the CIO's Economic Outlook? First, it makes a plea that indifference to the problem of distressed areas be overcome.

Indifference to human suffering is a terrible thing. And the Economic Outlook does a good job in bringing out the facts and exposing the cover-up treatment of distressed areas given by the capitalist press such as Time magazine and Barron's. But indifference to suffering belongs to capitalism like a stench belongs to a sewer. No pleas will change that.

Before the union movement came into existence, all the individual worker could do when his boss thought he was too old to work — or not fast enough — or not servile enough — was to plead with the boss against indifference to the plight of his family. When labor got organized, this was changed. The union established seniority rules, protected its members. The workers won some human dignity and a measure of security on the job.

Having learned nothing from this experience — precisely because the union bureaucrats, like the company stooges before them, support "free enterprise" politically, they go begging to the capitalist politicians for "concern" for human welfare. Along this road, nothing will be gained.

And what does the Economic Outlook ask? It asks for a

"Federal Community Development Authority" with labor representation to "investigate," "survey," "promote," "research," "report frequently," and "advise," and finally to "aid." (With this proposal there will be no danger of unemployment in Congress.)

Public works are proposed. But these, Economic Outlook says, should not consist of the production of consumer goods. That would interfere with capitalist markets and profits. As in the depression of the Thirties, public works, if the CIO gets its demand, will be confined to production of only such things as will not compete with private business. The old WPA often had to confine its "productive" activity to digging holes and then filling them again — when people needed food, clothing and many other things.

The Economic Outlook — a labor publication — also proposes that government loans and tax concessions be made to the bosses to induce them to make their profits in distressed areas. For bonanzas to business, the government hasn't needed the urging of labor in the past.

With almost a note of regret that the war danger has temporarily subsided, these capitalist-

minded labor officials urge that "production in government-owned facilities in these areas . . . should be maintained at the highest possible level consistent with defense requirements."

It doesn't even occur to them to suggest that the government undertake to produce what people need for peace. That would be socialism. The capitalist government enters the sanctified realm of industry only for war.

The report of the Economic Outlook concludes under the head "Management Must Lead." It pleads: "Surely American business — whether large or small — can no longer be allowed to ignore its community responsibility."

Bowing to the great god of "free enterprise" the lords of labor abdicate. They yield the responsibility — but not their privileged position at the head of the labor movement.

As long as the labor movement clings to the notion that capitalism is the "best of all possible worlds" so long will the vain pleas prevail. To solve the problems of distressed areas, and to keep the whole country from becoming distressed, labor must take the lead — and capitalism must go.

...The Harvester Strike

(Continued from page 1)

ed by the previous contract from union representation, such as engineers, draftsmen, laboratory workers, etc., are making overtures to demonstrate their sympathy with the strike. One strike bulletin said: "Orchids to all the people in the non-bargaining units who respected our picket lines."

While 17,000 of the 40,000 strikers are centered in Chicago, the power of the struggle reaches coast to coast. Plants in Canton, and Rock Falls, Illinois, and Memphis, Tennessee, among others plagued with unsettled grievances, also struck before the contract expired.

For the first time in history, the Harvester Parts Depots distributed throughout the country as far west as California were closed down by picket contingents, thereby putting a crimp in the corporation's immediate income.

The union's position is further strengthened, according to local 1301 President Neputy, "by the fact that our union has already won satisfactory settlements from Harvester's principle competitors such as Deere, GM, Caterpillar, and Ford."

Harvester workers' strike demands are well based. The workers have much catching up to do. The UAW "package" won in Ford and GM must be exceeded if Harvester workers are to keep abreast of national standards.

The Rank-and-File Dockers Strike

By James O'Hara

The west side piers of Manhattan where all the big passenger ships dock went quiet last week and stayed that way for three days. The only noise you heard was the sputterings of the ship owners, the newspapers and a raft of bought and paid for Democratic and Republican politicians.

The dockers on the west side, on their own, decided to strike a blow against the Waterfront Commission. The immediate occasion was the action of the Commission to jerk the work permit of a longshoreman with a prison record. That did it. The pier on which he worked closed down and roving squads toured the other big piers and closed them down. The dockers either went home or drifted into the local taverns to talk over what was taking place.

That's about the shape of a typical waterfront so-called wildcat strike. The new leadership of the ILA headed by Captain William Bradley could only bring the men back to work three days later by promising that the leadership would call an official strike in two weeks. "Give us a chance boys and if we don't succeed we promise that we'll be down here leading you in two weeks." That was the pitch that finally sent the men very reluctantly back to work.

Several weeks ago this leadership had announced that it was going into politics to defeat this monstrous instrument called by the dockers, "The Commission Police State." They stated as their considered policy that the votes of the dockers and their families would only go to those politicians who were against the Commission.

Since so many of the dockers are of Irish and Italian extraction, they exert a lot of pressure on the "local ward heelers" of the New York City Democratic machine. For this reason there was some fancy footwork by the past couple weeks by the state Democratic administration on the waterfront issue.

The Governor's staff made noises in Albany that sounded like a concession to the dockers. A legal advisor to Governor Harriman, Daniel Gutman, came up with a new plan for a joint committee of union, management and state to go over the problem of the Waterfront Commission. The plan was talked up as a proposal for a "buffer group" to soften the effects of the Commission's rulings.

Several other political hopefuls showed sympathy for the dock workers, but the entire show failed to make much impression on the waterfront. In the midst of all this talk and maneuvering the Waterfront Commission screened out the

longshoremen who had once served time, and the explosion was triggered.

The impressively militant demonstration of the longshoremen drew fire from the daily boss newspapers. They all screamed about the dock workers' defiance of the Waterfront Commission.

The New York Times, of course, gave the class line of the bosses most clearly. It took time out from advising the State Department and various foreign governments and ran as its lead editorial Aug. 26 a lengthy warning entitled "Anarchy on the Docks."

"No government," said the Times, "can submit to lawless dictation by force of any kind, including economic pressure."

In a different period the Times would have called for inflicting a bloody defeat on the workers to teach the "anarchists" a lesson. As it was, however, the editorial merely warned all concerned from the state capital, the shipowners to the union leadership that the action of the rank and file cannot be tolerated or encouraged.

Governor Harriman quickly followed up by repudiating the Gutman Plan and announcing his support of the Waterfront Commission. This Governor is so busy angling for the Democratic presidential nomination next year that he has to throw the usual cautious temporizing with an important labor issue overboard.

DEADLOCK

A virtual impasse has now developed on this issue. The ranks of the ILA are determined that the Commission has got to go. They have the lesson of many years fight on the docks to recognize their power and they are willing and prepared to use that power to achieve their end.

On the other hand the capitalist class is united in their determination that a labor demonstration of the kind put on last week shall not win any concession.

In between is the official leadership running back and forth from the union ranks to the State Capital — afraid to threaten the ranks for their "wildcat" action which they claim broke the pledge in the contract, and afraid of the anger of the Governor and the others concerned. But because of the action of the ranks they enter every negotiating room with real power.

...WAGES IN BRITAIN

(Continued from page 1)

purchasing power of the workers and help in lowering labor costs.

"... free collective bargaining in a state of brim-full employment leads to a steady and rapid rise in labor cost . . . It is this state of affairs . . . that is undermining the pound." So it concluded in an article on July 30.

It demanded a "sound long term policy" from the Tory Government. Among its suggested measures for placing the crisis on the backs of the working class—which included a cut in house building to lower public expenditure, and a rise in rents to lower the working class demand for houses — was the plea that the government should be "less scared of a very little (!) temporary (!) unemployment."

As union after union decides to go forward for increased wages, unemployment is increasingly advocated as a barrier to militancy and the wages movement. The capitalist economic journalists are more insistently demanding that the Tory Government "make more workers available by eliminating some existing jobs"—to use the phrase by which last Sunday's "Observer" postically described the proposition, to reduce a large section of Britain's workers to the pittance of unemployment benefit.

It seems certain that the Tory Chancellor of the Exchequer will introduce the Autumn Budget of the character that his financial advisers and capitalist economists in general are pressing for. By further credit restrictions, a slashing of public expenditure and other measures he will then attempt to develop a "Beveridge level" of "full employment" and a cut in the consumption of the masses to prevent a wholesale slump in exports.

WORKERS FEEL STRONG

However, there is a factor in the situation which is a major

obstacle to the Tory Government and the ruling class which ever way they turn. The Economist itself touched upon that factor in its leading article of last week when it declared: "The bases of this year's (wage) claims are feelings and confidence and power."

That sentence correctly described the feelings of the rank and file British trade unionists. For these working men and women have not experienced a serious defeat for many years. They are in no way demoralized. On the contrary! They are developing a growing militancy and offensive spirit. The first beginnings of unemployment, unleashing all the stored-up bitter memories of pre-war depression, can only heighten that spirit.

The state of consciousness of the British working class makes inevitable the widespread struggles which the "Economist" would seek to avoid by altering the "present circumstances in the labor market."

SEPTEMBER SELECTION BOOK-A-MONTH PLAN

FERDINAND LASSALLE. Romantic Revolutionary. By David Footman. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1947, 251 pp., \$3.50 (Sept. Book-A-Month price \$1 plus 15 cents mailing charge.)

Ferdinand Lassalle has been a difficult revolutionary figure for socialists of this century to understand. Or more precisely, it is hard to understand why he played such an important role and why the Lassalle legend had so long and powerful a grip on the German working class.

The development of revolutionary socialism has accosted us to leaders of the caliber of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky, men of great intellect and completely immersed in the class struggle. Yet Lassalle led a double life. He had a foot in both camps. Of brilliant intellect and ability, he never wrote or spoke anything profound on economics or politics. He was at least equally interested in climbing to the top of Berlin's bourgeois-feudal social ladder as he was in working class politics.

But humans are complex things. This strutting peacock and lady-killer, despite all his attraction to the world of the rich and powerful had a streak of revolutionary ardor that ran through his whole life. A combination of circumstances, including a weariness with the social success he coveted, the fact that he was able to remain in Germany after the crushing of the German revolution led him to play a great role in the 1862-1864 awakening of the German working class to independent political action.

He threw himself into the movement with tremendous energy and audacity. His plans were of the political get-rich-quick variety which led into fantastic opportunism and adventurism, including secret dealings with Bismarck. Then it was all cut short as his stormy personal life and its complications took precedence over his political work. He was killed in a duel resulting

from an unhappy and abortive love affair.

Lassalle had streaked across the political firmament of Germany like a meteor. The news of his sudden, dramatic death was the sensation of Europe. As his body was brought down the Rhine such huge crowds came to each halting place that the government became alarmed and ended this last Rhineland tour.

To Countess Hatzfeldt, who was Lassalle's lifelong companion, support and political recruit, Marx — who had much friction, personal and political, with Lassalle — wrote: "I know what he was for you and what his loss will mean. But take heart over this — he died young, in triumph, like Achilles." And later: "Be quite apart from what he did I loved him as a man. The trouble was that we kept in hiding from each other, as if we were going to live forever."

Eleven years later Lassalle's General German Workers Association merged with the Marxist Social-Democratic Party. But it was a long time before the negative side of Lassalle's influence faded from the movement.

This book is an unusually fine biography. Well written, scrupulously documented, it gives a balanced treatment of Lassalle's personal character and political character. Especially fine is the objective account of Lassalle's relations with Marx and Engels. The picture that emerges is a tribute to the conduct of these two great leaders in dealing with a very trying personality.

Book - A - Month Plan

September Selection

Ferdinand Lassalle

Romantic Revolutionary

By David Footman

Published at \$3.50

Special September price

\$1.00

(plus 15c. mailing charge)

Payments must accompany order

PIONEER PUBLISHERS
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New York 3, New York

When the Moroccans Speak of 'Those'

By George Lavan

Half of Morocco has been put off limits to the 20,000 U.S. Air Force personnel stationed there and to their families.

In expectation of further fighting in the independence-seeking colony, Air Force Major General Glantzberg ordered Americans to stay off the beaches and not to travel on trains, etc., at night. At the same time plans were speeded up to move as many as possible of the 7,000 wives and children of U.S. airmen out of Moroccan towns and cities into the huge heavily guarded U.S. air bases scattered throughout the country.

NO ANTI-AMERICANISM?

Gen. Glantzberg in his off-limits order said, "we are in no danger" and there is no "anti-Americanism." However, just the opposite is true. The danger is not only to the GI's and their families, but there is danger that a real or framed-up attack on American personnel might be the excuse for U.S. entry into the civil war in North Africa. Needless to say, such an intervention by the Wall Street-dominated government would be on the side of French imperialism.

Moreover, there is anti-Americanism in North Africa and it is growing by leaps and bounds. Time was when Moroccans, if they had any attitude on the subject, were friendly to Americans. They knew the U.S., too, had once been a colony, or 13 of them, and had won its independence in a revolution. They assumed Americans would therefore be sympathetic to another country struggling for independence.

This naive belief has been completely shattered by the open role of U.S. imperialism since World War II as the financier and arms-supplier against all colonial struggles for independence. If the U.S. role in Indonesia, Indo-China and Korea weren't enough, the Moroccans have since learned first hand.

WAR BASES

They know that the U.S., along with other powers signed a solemn agreement in 1906 guaranteeing Moroccan independence and the sovereignty of the Sultan. They know the U.S. ignored its pledge when the French marched into the country and took it over as a "protectorate."

They know that officially the

U.S. still recognizes the Sultan as ruler of Morocco. There is an ambassador from Morocco in Washington. Yet when the big air-base deal was made, the U.S. made it with France, the Sultan or Moroccan people weren't even informed that their country's land was being given to a foreign power for war bases.

When the French deposed the pro-nationalist Sultan ben Youssef, U.S. officials in Morocco openly sided with the French. They know that U.S. capital is coming into Morocco and exploiting the people at the same slave-labor rates and conditions as French capital. They know that U.S. capital like the U.S. Air Force and Navy, use the same hated double-scale of wages (high for the French, low for Moroccans) in their hiring. Moreover the racial discrimination enforced by the French "protectors" is immediately adopted by the Americans.

Small wonder anti-Americanism is growing. That it hasn't burst out in bloodshed is in large part due to the constant urgings of the Istiglal leaders. They keep telling Moroccan independence fighters not to "open a second front." That is to say, the French are enough for the present fight, why attack a second enemy before the first is beaten?

It is a testimony to the discipline and practicality of the Moroccan nationalists so far that they have refrained from attacks on U.S. personnel. Yet as long as U.S. troops remain, popular hatred may burst the Istiglal bonds.

Or the French residents, who have powerful secret organizations, may decide to involve the U.S. army on their side. For this purpose they are capable of organizing attacks upon Americans, and blaming it on Moroccan nationalists.

ANOTHER INDO-CHINA

Morocco may soon be another Indo-China. As long as American troops are there, grave danger exists that U.S. personnel will be attacked—by one side or the other. The Pentagon militarists and the U.S. Big Business press would thus have at hand the excuse to involve this country in the war to prevent Morocco from winning independence.

Istiglal sources give a graphic picture of the popular attitude towards the Americans. Moroccan

workers and peasants talk about them without naming them, since everyone knows who is meant. Conversations run thus: "If it weren't for those we'd be free by now." "Those supply the French with the dollars, bullets, guns and everything to fight us." "The French could never last so long without those," etc., etc.

Nationalist descriptions of the world outlook of the Moroccan people also show that they have keenly followed other colonial struggles. Ho Chi Minh is a great hero with the Moroccan masses because he defeated the French militarists despite all the money and arms that those supplied. Similarly there is popular enthusiasm for China, and to a lesser degree for the Soviet Union. Not because of "Communism" in those countries but because of their opposition to the imperialist powers.

ATTITUDE TO STALINISTS

Despite this the Stalinists have no influence in the Moroccan struggle. This is because Stalinism is identified with the powerful French Communist Party and its record on the North African independence struggles has not been clean. As part of the immediate post-war cabinets the French Stalinists were indistinguishable from French imperialists of the liberal stripe. Even today they are for more "reforms" rather than real independence for the colonies.

Moreover, the CGT—the biggest French trade union—which is Stalinist dominated, exists in Morocco. But it is practically a Jim Crow union. Only a tiny number of Moroccans may belong to it. It is primarily a union for the French in Morocco. While this was based on French law in Morocco—unions are not for Moroccans—the CGT made no real fight to organize Moroccan workers despite the law. When, however, the Moroccans organized their own underground union—the UMT—which is open to both Moroccan and French workers the Stalinist-led CGT bitterly opposed it.

During the recent events protests against the U.S. role as paymaster and quartermaster for French troops in North Africa have been coming from Arab-Asian-African nations. Prime Minister Nasser of Egypt personally protested to the U.S. ambassador against employment

of U.S. financed and equipped NATO troops "against defenseless people demanding independence and the right to live." In Pakistan there were mass demonstrations.

In Washington a protest of eight Arab nations was taken to the State Department by the Syrian ambassador. In the United Nations 17 nations urged condemnation of the French terror in Algeria and Morocco. Previously the U.S. has blocked UN condemnation of French tyranny in North Africa. Now there are indications the State Department may try to disclaim responsibility.

Last week it was revealed that even CIO President Walter Reuther had protested in the name of American labor the Pentagon's gift of helicopters to the French in Algeria "for the express purpose of helping to hunt, to capture or to kill Algerian rebels."

The Pentagon replied lamely that the helicopters weren't given but only "lent." Moreover it had French assurances that they would be used only for "humanitarian" purposes. It is a well-known fact that helicopters are invaluable to modern armies in putting down guerrilla uprisings.

Furthermore the Defense De-

partment revealed that it had pressured the Sikorsky Company in this country to rush through a French order for helicopters. Since they still couldn't be got quickly enough, the Pentagon decided to "lend" the machines.

An interesting sidelight is the current pleading of the Haitian Red Cross to get at least one helicopter to drop food and medical supplies to remote mountain villages where starvation and disease are raging in the wake of the damage done by Hurricane Hazel. An estimated 40,000 to 70,000 men, women and children in Haiti are starving or sick. Yet Washington, which acted with such alacrity for the French colonial rulers, seems hard of hearing to these cries at its very doorstep.

A New York Times editorial of Aug. 29 on Haiti laments: "Surely a helicopter can be freed to help the doctors in their plucky work. Surely we can act with more generosity and imagination toward even this tiniest of our friends and allies."

Actually the amount of U.S. aid to the French militarists in North Africa remains unknown. Only by chance was it revealed recently that a U.S. plane and personnel had taken part in a parachute drop against Algerian independence fighters.

World Events

THREE OF WEST GER-MANY'S largest banks are planning a fusion in everything but law. They contemplate eventual recreation of the Deutsche Bank, centralized banking institution broken up by the Allied occupation. Other banks are also envisaging fusion. According to M. S. Handler, Aug. 28 N. Y. Times, the object of German Big Business is to regroup all banking institutions into three systems that would enjoy a virtual credit monopoly in West Germany. A parallel movement of centralization is taking place in industry. The Allied occupation sought to break up German capital concentration under the pretext of "democratizing" West Germany. However, under conditions of the boom during the last few years, inherent capitalist tendencies making for concentration of wealth overrode legal barriers.

IN THE HAMBURG AREA in West Germany, 25,000 workers went on "wildcat" strikes last week. They closed down shipyards and locomotive, truck and Diesel engine works.

JAPAN WILL BE INDIA'S main foreign supplier of railroad equipment this year. West Germany will be next. Then England. Prior to the war, India had no choice but to obtain all her stock from England. About half of this year's orders for railroad equipment will go to Indian manufacturers and the rest to foreign.

A MAJORITY OF SAAR-LANDERS are expected to reject "European" status in a referendum on Oct. 23. They want an eventual return of the Saar to Germany. "European" status would mean being governed by the Western European Union, a military alliance. French imperialism wants this status for the Saar in order to freely exploit the region's iron and coal. The Saarlanders think of themselves as German.

JAMAICANS are migrating from the villages to the market towns of the island and then go overseas to the still greater British cities of London, Birmingham and Manchester. Those who go overseas are drawn from Jamaicans with better than average education including skilled workers. According to the Manchester Guardian this is causing concern to Jamaican authorities.

THE NEW, INDONESIAN CABINET, headed by Premier Harahap, is seeking aid under the U.S. economic development program. Indonesia could receive \$28 million under the program. The Harahap government replaced the Nationalist party cabinet which had Stalinist support. Harahap has a close working relation with the Army and also seeks to ease relations with the Dutch.

THE BRAZILIAN COMMUNIST PARTY is supporting Juscelino Kubitschek and Joao Goulart for President and Vice President in the Oct. 3 elections. Both are supporters of former dictator Vargas, who committed suicide last year. The Stalinists urged a common front of all opposed to a fascist coup "from workers and field laborers to big capitalists and landowners

interested in defending the Constitution." The Vargas candidates are also supported by the Vargas Labor Party and sections of the Social Democratic Party.

STRIKE WAVE IN SINGAPORE spread further last week to include hotel workers. They are demanding higher wages.

THE RADICAL PARTY OP-POSITION TO PERON in Argentina attacked him for sellout of Argentina's national resources. Target of attack was a contract signed recently by the government with Standard Oil Co. of California. The opposition has forced the Peron government to reopen negotiations with Standard Oil in order to try to tone down terms of the contract a little. "Don't get the idea," one Peron critic told a N.Y. Herald-Tribune correspondent, "that I am anti-American. I am not. But I fear that this stupid contract . . . will mean a growth of anti-United States sentiment in this country!"

IN AUSTRIA, a nationwide strike of 13,000 doctors and dentists led to street fighting with police. The doctors and dentists oppose extension of medical insurance to all Austrians regardless of income. They claim would deprive them of fees from patients in upper brackets. The real complaint of the doctors and dentists is that they are dependent for livelihood on service they provide for state insured patients (which by law includes all workers) and that these fees are too low. The government devotes too much of employee contributions to bureaucratic ends, they charge.

SEVERAL THOUSAND VIR-GIN ISLANDERS marched on Government House two weeks ago to demand recall of Governor Archie A. Alexander, appointed by President Eisenhower in 1954. The demonstration was sponsored by CIO Local Industrial Union 1812. Another resolution presented by the workers demanded amendment of the Organic Act passed by the 83rd Congress for the Islands' administration. Under the Act, the governor has absolute veto over decisions of the Islands' legislature. According to the Aug. 8 CIO News, Alexander was charged by the islanders with making derogatory statements about their character. When informed of the demonstration in Washington, Alexander arrogantly stated, "They (the islanders) don't want discipline, and that's what I'm giving them."

A NEW Important Pamphlet Egypt

"A People Rising"
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42 pages 25 cents
Pioneer Publishers
116 University Place
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What Reuther Left Unsaid

In a take-off on Defense Secretary Wilson's famous adage — what's good for General Motors is good for America — CIO President Walter Reuther in his Labor Day statement said, "what is good for America is good for labor."

Reuther is right as far as he goes. The overwhelming majority of the people of the United States are wage workers — not profitmakers.

But Reuther avoided an obvious point: Wilson spoke as a high official in the U.S. government. His class point of view is the one that determines government policies. Wage workers constitute the majority of the American people but Big Business representatives like Wilson are the ones who run the government.

Examine the record of the Eisenhower administration — in the main backed by the Democratic Congress — and you will see, not what is good for labor, or the U.S., but what is good for General Motors.

The tax policies gave a big boost to corporate profits. The "defense" contracts in the bulk went to Big Business. The Taft Hartley Act, the witch-hunt legislation — these have tied up the resources of the labor movement in litigations, slowed the capacity of labor to defend itself, and weakened and intimidated labor's ranks.

Take the foreign policy of the administration, supported by Democrats and Republicans. The corporations have a lot of capital tied up in Europe and in the

colonial world. U.S. foreign policy is primarily concerned with making these profits safe — and extending the area of capitalist investment.

Considerable military aid has been handed out to help save the French imperialist empire. Millions have gone to bolster Franco's fascist dictatorship in Spain. Millions more are thrown to the Chinese tyrant, Chiang Kai-shek.

All this is just great for General Motors and the other corporation giants.

The merger of the CIO and AFL this fall will give the labor movement a combined membership of over 15 million. This organization will be the only one in America that can speak effectively for over 60 million wage earners and their families.

Yet Reuther and the rest of the top labor brass would use this great power as a prop for the Democratic Party — to bolster up a political machine that is torn between Southern racists, city machine bosses and a sprinkling of liberals — a party that is itself so tied up with Big Business that it can't even find a program worth fighting with the Republicans about.

For America's good to be labor's good, labor has to enter politics, not as the servile adjunct of the Democratic Party, but as an independent force organized into a great Labor Party.

Bloodshed at Oued Zem

Fox Movietone News this week shows French imperialist savagery in action against the Moroccan people. "Shoot first, ask questions later" is the command given to the French troops.

In the newsreel we see: (1) A Moroccan walking away from a French patrol. He is shot in the back. (2) French soldiers shooting bedouins emerging hands raised from a tent. (3) French soldiers shooting wounded fallen Moroccans in the head.

In these depredations against a colonial people fighting for its freedom the arms come from the U.S. government.

The shooting is done by the dehumanized professional killers that make up the French Foreign Legion. Many of them belonged to the Nazi Schutz Staffel, Hitler's elite killer corps.

The Fox-Movietone commentator intimates that French atrocities are legitimate retaliation for what happened in the village of Oued Zem, two weeks ago. There

Berber tribesmen came down from the hills and killed French residents. The Foreign Legion then proceeded to slaughter the Arabs, as they have done without pretext in many other villages and cities.

What a disgusting outcry the capitalist press has raised about the Berber "atrocities." How they use it to cover French imperialist crimes made possible by U.S. armed aid! What they want us to forget is that Arabs rightfully own Morocco and the French are invaders and oppressors.

There is a world of difference between the violence of a brutally exploited people — subjected for decades to torture and executions but now fighting for its freedom — and the violence of its tormentors.

Do the gentlemen of the capitalist press wish to tell us that the deeds of John Brown and the valiant band that fought against slavery under his leadership took the same as the lynch terror of the KKK?

Floods Can Be Controlled

On Aug. 28, Col. Clarence Renshaw, a division chief of the Army Engineers declared "the country isn't rich enough to build everything that would be needed to stop floods."

We differ. According to Renshaw himself a flood control system of works along the Lehigh River in Pennsylvania, authorized by Congress ten years ago, would have cost only \$12 million to build. It would have protected Allentown and Bethlehem — hard hit by the recent floods — and saved an estimated \$19 million of damage, including many workers' homes. But Congress never authorized the money.

The cost of one aircraft carrier, over \$200 million, would buy nearly twenty such projects. One-tenth of this year's direct military appropriations if diverted to flood control would protect 300 areas like the one encompassed by Allentown and Bethlehem.

Flood damage is a thing of the past in the Tennessee Valley, once a perennial

source of devastation. The total cost of TVA from its inception in 1933 to June 1949 was \$764 million. And this includes much more than flood control features. The figure includes the cost for power stations, navigation channels, reforestation, recreational areas — all of which tie in with flood control.

The nub of the question is this. The U.S. government is concerned only with war preparations and huge handouts to Big Business. It doesn't give a rap for the welfare of the working people.

This was true under a Democratic as it is now under a Republican administration. That is why the "country isn't rich enough" to build homes, schools, parks, hospitals or flood control projects to meet the needs of the country.

A Workers and Farmers Government, not desirous of making war or enriching Big Business, would have no trouble finding the resources to "build everything needed to stop floods" and meet numerous other pressing needs of the population besides.

Houston Hospitality

On August 22 the Indian Ambassador to this country and an aide landed at Houston's International Airport en route to Mexico. They went into the airport restaurant and seated themselves but were quickly unseated by the restaurant manager. This person, using the criterion of the American way down South — the color of a person's skin — immediately decided they were not fit to eat in the main dining room. She ordered them to move into an empty little room elsewhere, firmly declaring "the law's the law."

Since this has become an international incident officials have been falling all over themselves making apologies to the Indian Ambassador and his government. Secretary of State Dulles personally apologized to Ambassador Mehta. The American Ambassador in New Delhi, India, apologized to Nehru's government. The Mayor of Houston has invited the Indian dignitaries to return for a visit to hospitable Houston where he is "proud" to say "Houstonians do not discriminate against anyone of any race."

The situation is both ludicrous — to see the official panic over an everyday incident

in the South, which this time has undone the work of many months of Voice of America broadcasts to Asia — and hypocrisy.

The hypocrisy is that the officials are apologizing not because there is racial discrimination in America but because it happened to humiliate an important foreigner. These officials don't mind how many Negro travelers in the past year have been ordered out of that dining room. That's the American Way in that region. What they mind is that it hurts the U.S. diplomatically.

Since the International Airport was built with federal funds, the City of Houston is supposed to run unsegregated facilities on it. But the manager who said "the law's the law," when she mistook the Indian diplomats for Negroes, gave the show away.

The federal government, even in those few instances where it has anti-discrimination laws on the books, doesn't bother to enforce them. That is, where American Negroes are concerned. In the future it will try to enforce them for Indian ambassadors.

By Daniel Roberts

"They say in Harlan County
There are no neutrals there . . .
Which side are you on?"
(From a Labor song)

But it is not only in Kentucky's bloody Harlan County, scene of heroic miners' battles, that neutrals are squeezed out.

There is no room for them in the struggle of the workers and peasants of colonial countries fighting for national independence from imperialist domination. In the epoch-making conflict of the Chinese masses against U.S. imperialism or the Indo-Chinese workers and peasants against French and U.S. imperialism, the question is posed to all political parties and groups: Which side are you on?

"THIRD CAMP"

Supposed neutrals or "Third Campists" do not escape this challenge. They, too, are obliged to take sides and do so, even if they mask partisanship behind hypocritical impartiality.

This is what the Shachtmanites of the Independent Socialist League are doing. Their official dogma is the Third Camp. They declare themselves "against the two systems of exploitation which now divide the world: capitalism and Stalinism." They counterpose to these "rival war camps" their own camp of "democratic socialism."

But it turns out they do not oppose both sides with quite the same fervor. Stalinophobia blinds our third campers, and alas they stray — into the camp of imperialism.

The Shachtmanites bitterly oppose the Chinese and Vietminh revolutions because they are Stalinist led. They claim that the revolutionary masses achieved only the aims of Stalinist "imperialism."

Genuine socialists support the fight of the workers and peasants against imperialism while seeking to replace the Stalinist bureaucrats with authentic Marxist leaders and a regime of workers' democracy. The Shachtmanites regard this position as "capitulation to Stalinism."

They prefer to view the victory of the Chinese and Vietminh as catastrophes. This is in line with the stand on World War III taken by Max

Shachtman: "No greater disaster can be expected in connection with the Third World War," he said, "than the victory of Stalinism." (July-August 1951 issue of the magazine, New Internationalist.)

SUPPORT U.S. IN WAR

He said in effect that the task of the ISL would be to work for democratizing the U. S. war camp in order to enable it to defeat Stalinism. The slogan he advanced was "transform . . . the imperialist war into a democratic war." These formulations mean political support and capitulation to U. S. imperialism.

Labor Action — weekly paper of the ISL — has adhered rigidly to these formulas. Like a man in anguish it has been screaming that the U. S. government is losing the war to Stalinism, thanks to undemocratic policies. U. S. imperialism, they wail is driving the people into the arms of Stalinism.

Despairing of obtaining a change of policy from the Republican and Democratic party leaderships, the Shachtmanites appealed on March 21 to the Americans for Democratic Action to launch a political offensive for a "democratic foreign policy."

ADA is a member of the liberal branch of U. S. imperialism. It is just as firmly committed to the program that Wall Street must rule the world as the chief policy makers of U. S. Big Business.

Labor Action has searched the wide world looking for a pure democratic and independent revolution — untainted by any trace of Stalinism — to support and hold up to the ADA liberals as a model of what to work for.

THE DIEM "REVOLUTION"

At last they found what they were looking for. On April 30 last, fighting broke out in South Vietnam, because the Diem government sought to change his status from puppet of French imperialism to U. S. State Department puppet, which pays more.

In the course of the fighting, Diem resorted to the creation of "revolutionary committees," which called a "National Revolutionary Congress" on May 5. This "Congress" deposed the

French-controlled Emperor Bao Dai and effected the transfer of political control from French to U. S. imperialism.

It was reported that a few nondescript "socialists" participated in the venture. This was enough to cause Labor Action to go into ecstasies. On May 23 they proclaimed, "REVOLUTION IN SOUTH VIETNAM: U. S. HELPING TO STIFLE ONLY FORCE THAT CAN BEAT STALINISTS."

And further: "The revolutionary nationalist forces in South Vietnam are demanding independence, a republic and free elections . . . The revolution in Vietnam is fighting both the Stalinist camp and the western imperialist camp. Hands off!"

That last injunction was addressed to the U. S. government — of all bodies. The Shachtmanites accused the State Department of trying to scuttle the "revolution" it itself had promoted.

A Diem-State Department revolution — that is the Shachtmanites' conception of the "Third Camp" promise come true.

Their support for Diem's coup is of a piece with Shachtman's joining with Social Democrats and Norman Thomas "socialists" — both open supporters of U. S. imperialism — to issue a leaflet to the Chinese Workers and Peasants entitled "Stalinism is not Socialism." Testimony in Shachtman's passport case brought out that the U.S. State Department dropped 100,000 copies of these leaflets into China on the eve of the Korean war. As the song says: Which side are they on?

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The Negro Struggle

A Federal Judge Speaks His Racist Mind

Federal District Judge Ashton H. Williams in Charleston, S.C., recently called for the outlawing of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The NAACP, according to this interpreter of American law, "appears to be a secret organization. Reports indicate they will resort to any means to carry out their purposes."

To add that touch of impartiality, which judges are supposed to have, Judge Williams also attacked the Ku Klux Klan and urged its banning. Both organizations he said were "enemies" of a solution of the school segregation issue in the South and that no progress in the school situation could be made until they are "wholly eliminated from the picture in South Carolina."

Now, everyone in the U.S. knows the record of the Ku Klux Klan — its murders, lynchings, floggings are part of the historical and legal record. Most people know the record of the NAACP. It is an organization which fights Jim Crow principally by law suits, education, etc. There has never been any responsible charge that it has ever used other than legal means in its work against segregation and discrimination. This is known to racists, like Judge

Williams, but they hope to befuddle the public by linking the NAACP with the KKK.

Nor does the "attack" on the KKK by the federal jurist injure the campaign against white supremacy cause. Many other racist organizations have sprung up with official encouragement in the Deep South. For example the White Citizens Councils, led by the "best people" in the Mississippi and neighboring states has far outstripped the KKK.

What is most significant about Judge Williams' statement is the glimpse it gives into the minds of the federal judges in the South. These are the very men who are supposed to "enforce" the Supreme Court's decision against school segregation. They are the ones to decide if Southern school boards are moving in "good faith" toward desegregation.

No reliance can be put upon them to enforce desegregation — among them are the greatest enemies of racial equality in the country. Whatever desegregation comes about in their districts will be in direct proportion to the struggle waged by the Negro people and the labor movement for what the Supreme court has granted in theory but not in fact.

I Want to Tell My Boss

By Joyce Cowley

A fellow named William Karp has started a new consultation service to help people who are unhappy about their jobs. Most of his clients are troubled executives (probably no one else can afford the fees). Seems these executives worry because they want to be liked, and because their employees don't confide in them. They are also upset because they can't give more money to workers who deserve it.

For quite some time I've been wanting to confide in the boss, and I'm so willing to help him work out these problems that I won't even charge a fee for my advice. This is a real bargain for him because I'm sure the consultation service costs plenty, since it has a staff of financial analysts, psychologists, vocational guidance experts, etc.

I can't help wondering if the average executive is a bit slow on the pick-up, since he apparently needs all these experts to explain why people don't like him. As I said, I want to confide in my own boss. I'd like to tell him for instance, that I resent working a 40-hour week when many offices in New York are working 35. I'd like to point out that a coffee break has become a rather popular institution. I'd like to suggest he hire a substitute when another girl goes on vacation instead of expecting me to do double the amount of work. And since it always puzzles him, I'd like to explain why so many employees run short and ask for an advance before payday.

This brings up the interesting point about bosses being so troubled when they can't give more money to deserving workers. I was never aware of this and perhaps the real difficulty is not that I fail to confide in my boss, but he doesn't confide in me. The consultation service provides

financial experts who suggest that if raises are impossible, their analysis of his business will provide the boss with a "straight-forward authoritative excuse" for postponing the question of money. (In the dictionary they say to excuse is "to make an apology for, to endeavor to remove the blame from.") Now I see why they need the experts. It takes talent to make an excuse "straight-forward.")

The reason the boss won't give raises, much as he would like to, is because it would "plunge the company into debt." None of the firms I worked for in recent years seemed on the verge of bankruptcy — in one case they made so much money they had to pay an 85% excess profit tax. Yet all of them had the same kind of reluctance about raises.

While the boss explains the threat of bankruptcy in spite of booming sales, he might also tell me why he can afford a two months vacation in Europe while an employee who has been with the company 25 years has to take a third week at her own expense. Incidentally, since he's saving on her salary, why can't he pay a temporary stenographer to get out the mail? As I said, I think it would help if he were confiding, too.

In spite of my eagerness, I have not yet discussed all these questions with the boss. I don't need a consultation service to explain the cause of my reticence, or tell me why I'm unhappy about the job. When I do exchange confidences with him, I hope I can speak as a spokesman for all the girls. I'm afraid this will make him feel even less popular, but I'll present him with a concrete program to solve his difficulties and ours, too. We'll like him a lot better when we have 10 o'clock coffee and when we punch out at five instead of six.

Notes from the News

A NEGRO VETERAN, who lost his left leg and right foot in Korea, was acquitted of the charge of drunk driving by a Los Angeles jury. The California Eagle reports that the veteran, John J. McCarthy Jr., charged that two officers kned him in the groin, twisted his artificial leg under him and dragged him to the police car. The policemen accused him of being drunk because he "staggered" when he walked.

THE RIGHT TO INVOKE THE FIFTH AMENDMENT by lawyers was debated before the bar association in Philadelphia, Aug. 24. Tracy E. Griffin denied the right of a Communist to practice law. While he admitted that the Fifth Amendment was integral in American jurisprudence he denied that the privilege of invoking it was a basic right of citizens. Erwin N. Griswold, Dean of Harvard Law School, refuted this by asking, "What have we done if we save security and come up in a country where freedom is gone?" However he weakened his argument by according to the point that a lawyer who invokes the Amendment should be investigated.

THE PACKINGHOUSE WORKER, newspaper of the United Packinghouse Workers of America, OIO, reports that a joint team of UPWA and

AFL Meatcutters negotiated a 14-cent general wage increase from the American Meat Institute, which includes all major meatpackers. This, the paper claims, is the biggest lump-sum wage increase ever negotiated in the industry.

THE GEORGIA STATE CONFERENCE of branches of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People met in Macon Aug. 13, to carry on the fight against the restrictive actions of the Georgia Board of Education against school segregation. Nearly 200 delegates attended, making it one of the most representative conferences held in the state. At the last minute the Georgia Power Company cancelled the use of its hall because a company official decided the conference was of a "controversial nature." The sessions were then quickly shifted to the Stewart AME Chapel.

"NOT ON STRIKE YET, JUST PRACTICING" read the picket signs in Dallas, Texas, as CIO Communications Workers pressed their demand to end regional differentials which scale their pay \$14 to \$18.50 a week less than CWA rates in other parts of the country. Contracts are being negotiated for 175,000 Bell System workers across the nation, for more than half the union's membership.

GOVERNOR KOHLER OF WISCONSIN, uncle of the owner of the strike-bound Kohler plant and a factory owner himself, lost a compensation claim case made by one of his employees. The worker, Melvin Kaiser, lost his left hand operating a draw press as a result of management violation of state safety regulations. When the compensation claim was made, Kohler objected, claiming the worker had deliberately cut off his hand in order to obtain the compensation.

A UNION NEWSPAPER EDITOR was suspended for exposing poor safety conditions in the General Motors spring and bumper plant in Livonia, Mich. When Al Milstein, editor of Local 262 UAW publication, The Forgemans, was escorted to the gate by plant police, workers began to protest. The Local promises to fight the issue all the way up. The company objected to the paper's use of the popular nickname given to the forge shop — "the slaughterhouse."

From Detroit

Auto Boom Seems Durable -- If You Don't Look Close

Automobiles are rolling off the assembly lines here at record rates. In spite of automation, which means greater production with fewer workers, employment is high for this time of year, and there seems to be unlimited prosperity. The socialist argument, that capitalism leads to either depression or war, is having rough sledding in Detroit these days because it seems to contradict the facts. But all is not what the surface appearance indicates.

John S. Knight, publisher of the Detroit Free Press, has called public attention to the "staggering \$12.6 billion automobile credit market." That figure comes perilously close to the value of the entire yearly output of automobiles in this country.

In other words the output of the American automobile industry (not just one company, or one model, but close to the entire passenger car industry) is not being sold. It is being loaned on promises to pay, and as fast as one payment is made, a new debt is incurred.

Big-business spokesman Knight is naturally concerned about the worth of these promises, or at least of the ability of the promoters to live up to their contracts. He cites the fact that the low down-payments now being offered do not begin to make up for the rapid loss in value incurred in the first few months of an automobile's use. "When a man finds himself owing \$2,500 on a car worth \$1,500, that's asking for trouble."

Knight is also concerned about the "implicit faith of businessmen generally that business will be good for at least another year . . ." because "The admin-

Floods and Fire Wreck Plant



Only the tall chimney of a magnesium factory in Puntnam, Conn., rises from the charred and twisted remains of the plant (center) which was destroyed by flood and fire. Hundreds of barrels of the exploding magnesium sprayed the business district of this northern Connecticut town, setting other fires and terrorizing the population.

istration has to keep things humming."

He cautions: "... the decade of the '20's shows that even Government, working hand in hand with the 'Captains of industry,' couldn't guarantee a perpetual prosperity."

"When the crash came in 1929, Herbert Hoover talked wistfully about 'prosperity' being right around the corner but he was shown to be wrong."

"Even in Roosevelt's day, with Government spending at a new high, the unemployment problem was never solved. When World War II was starting in 1939, more than nine million persons were unemployed in the United States."

He says that "in the mad rush to move goods and supplies, the businessman has thrown caution out of the window." However, Knight reaffirms his faith in

the future of capitalism. American business must "use the economic tools now in the hands of Government to check the over-extension of credit . . ."

Just how this is to be done without interfering with "the mad rush to move goods and supplies" he doesn't say.

World scientists at the Geneva conference on atomic energy warned Aug. 10 that safety measures must be developed for atomic workers. They said current hazards ranging from death to sterility for atomic workers and all others within a mile of nuclear plants.

An American report revealed that two persons have died after accidental exposure to radiation at the Los Alamos Atomic Laboratory.

Apple Growers Fight to Keep Scab Conditions

By Gordon Bailey

SEBASTOPOL, Aug. 25 — All all-out strike struggle between the cannery owners and the workers has broken out in this apple-growing center of California. The atmosphere of this hitherto quiet country town is reminiscent of the violent agricultural struggles of the Thirties. Workers have been intimidated, injunctions issued, and an organizer savagely beaten by a lynch party.

While all other California agricultural centers have been organized with AFL Teamster contracts, Sebastopol has remained the sole open shop agricultural town. Women cannery workers here earn \$1.00 an hour compared to the state average of \$1.35; men earn \$1.25 as against \$1.48.

Cannery owners revealed their determination to maintain these scab conditions when they fired 142 workers on the eve of an NLRB election last fall. "Just coincidence," they said.

This year the Teamsters' union officials attacked by calling out the workers from the seven largest canneries and bringing in 20 additional Teamster officials to head the strike.

The cannery owners got a court injunction limiting picketing and banning a secondary boycott of "hot" apples. This part of the injunction is being defied, however, as teamsters throughout the West are declining to handle fruit from the struck plants.

The bosses resorted to traditional lynch-mob violence when a band kidnapped William Grami, chief Teamster organizer, tied him to a telephone pole and beat him with a bicycle chain. The growers disavowed all responsibility for the outrage, but made no move to settle the strike.

Instead, they have launched a radio, telephone and newspaper

campaign of lies and intimidation to recruit scabs for the canneries. Some farmers' wives, juveniles, and others are going through the picket lines, enabling the growers to maintain a semblance of production.

The Teamsters' officials have recognized the threat to their union if the bosses can smash their organizing attempt and have vowed to maintain the fight, "as long as there's one man or woman who wants to be represented by the Teamsters."

However, the union leaders are relying mainly on their "hot cargo" ban to win the strike for them. No great effort is being made to encourage rank and file participation in the leadership of the strike. No campaign to counter the bosses' tactics of intimidation and economic pressure on local workers has been developed. No kind of strike paper or bulletin has been issued.

Both the Associated Farmers and the Teamsters Union have powerful resources behind them; and both have big stakes in the outcome of the strike. But community pressure may well be the key to victory. At present the employers have the offensive as they use all organs of propaganda to whip up sentiment against the union and scare workers away from the union hall.

If the Teamsters' organizers would rely more on the native militancy and resourcefulness of the strikers, a decisive victory is assured in this town where the majority of the workers must make their living toiling long hours in the apple canneries.

Our Readers Take the Floor

From England

Editor:

The bundle of Militants you send us is being regularly received and sold. In fact we have received an order for more. These copies are being sold to workers from Jamaica, St. Kitts and British Guiana. We are running a class for them and they are very keen to learn about socialism.

Other Militants go to railwaymen where the struggle for a living wage is sharpening up again. The lowest paid railwayman only gets 6 pounds 11 shillings per week, which works out at about \$20, I think (actually \$18.34 — Ed.), — only chicken feed. Earnings are made up, of course, by overtime and in one case recently a railway porter took home 2 pounds (\$59), to do which he put in something like 100 hours. He used the money to pay off debts and buy things for his kids.

There is an incipient color bar here in Nottingham which has become a "colored" town. There are about 2,000 West Indians and West Africans working in mostly lower paid jobs. So far the attempts at color discrimination have been held back by the Labor Movement locally, but there are still some sore spots.

The Stalinists take a dirty hand here and hold back many attempts at militancy against racist elements. Their sole purpose is to dampen down the struggle and hold the class peace, a somewhat dirty dove, aloft.

We would be grateful if you would double the number of Militants you send us regularly. R.S. Nottingham, England

'Americanism' In Dixieland

Editor:

I subscribed to your paper and also to the Weekly People and almost got myself lynched for being a Communist as a result. The rumor was spread, that right here at . . . believe it or not, lives a Communist, right in our midst with the DAILY WORKER AND ALL. Now I never did even see a copy of the Daily Worker but regret I did not, for in the past I kept not any knowledge away from myself. But I was forced to drop both your paper and the Weekly People just to have a reasonable chance to live another day or so. Note the TRUTH about any such matter, matters not at all

down here. It is quite sufficient if some nincompoop calls a person a "Communist." That is that and will remain that forevermore.

Nope, one never gets a chance to be heard on such matters. As a result of that experience, coupled with other experiences of pre-War II date, I am a most despised man down here and the whole Gulf Coast has been alerted about me and every move I make is relayed to all the better class of people down here up-and-down the coast. So dangerous a man as I am must be watched by not only the FBI but by every loyal American.

It was just before War II started, during the depression (oppression) that a potato grower invited me out into the field to visit with him. He saw that though none had been able to make a certain Chemical Garden Tank to bear fruits, I did so pronto and that intrigued him. I did visit him in the field where he was working during the summer when his 50 hired hands were laid off. I inquired how those laid off lived.

He promptly informed me that was none of his worry. Thereupon I quoted Pope Leo XIII to him, and he flew into a rage and said he in a screech, "I am a Catholic and you are not going to tell me that the Pope said any such damn thing." I left and went home and so did he and on his way he stopped at every gas station to tell them that I was a Communist. I paid no heed and said no one will believe him BUT I was in error.

At Fort Myers, Florida I was arrested without warrant, jailed for 19 days without any charges being filed and let out without a word of apology from anyone. No charges were ever filed because I had not broken any law. But when I did come out of jail, where things were extremely rotten, I was so nervous I could not write my name.

Later, I was living in a houseboat which cost me more than \$2,000. It had a mast 26 feet tall and instead of a weather vane upon its top to let me know the direction of the wind, I tied a small red ribbon to the ropes and hoisted it aloft so I might know if I should set sail. In a few days my boat and everything I owned was burned.

Two years later I met another man in a distant town. He said, "What, you do not know why they burned your boat?" I replied I did not know and had been wondering ever since for

munists ever are concerned about wrongs in America judging from what people seem to think.

A few years ago the governor of this state propagandized for Florida catering to Big Business. He cited among other advantages for business here, "The Cheap and Docile Labor" and that there are no income taxes. This is a big drawing card for this state and the Powers That Be do not relish seeing any damn outsider or foreigners spoiling this paradise by unionizing labor.

Labor is slowly being organized despite all efforts to prevent it. But even so it is being done at the cost of the health of the organizers. With my evil reputation I would not even dare be seen in an organizing group.

Right here in the city of . . . , which is an agricultural community, there are but two big landowners who farm with slave labor. Agriculture has not been getting its share of the American dollar since War II. Therefore competitive farming cannot pay the wages it did during the war and still have as great an income.

There being only two big growers here, they pay what they wish and if the laborer does not like it, let him pull out. Not only are wages low, work is done only a few months each year. The annual income is very small. These workers here are helpless, for they cannot pick up and go elsewhere. Any wages offered must be accepted. It begins to look as if the worst is yet to come though.

(Name withheld) Florida

occupation." The Navy Commission would have eventually enabled him to attain a position of occupational responsibility with somewhat better wages and conditions than those accorded non-commissioned seamen.

Landy has already indicated that he is willing to pay the price for small privileges and enthusiastic approval of friends and associates. He has kept his mouth shut, learned his lessons at school, excelled in athletics and avoided association with "radical" political groups. Perhaps when he told his mother to drop her communist friends he intuitively sensed possible future repercussions upon his own life.

An intelligent boy, Eugene has apparently learned that in many instances the individual who wants approval of friends, relatives and future employers, must conform to certain accepted beliefs and practices. And, if, for instance, an accepted belief is that communists (and their friends) are nasty people who shouldn't be associated with, then communists (and their friends) must be strictly avoided.

Eugene Landy will have to "make time" like 63,000 other American workers because he was not born rich. He knows that — so does his mother — so do the FBI and the U.S. Navy Department. Getting that commission is very important to him because it means satisfaction of two very basic needs: (1) Approval of friends, relatives and associates — in short, recognition, and (2) development of a means of earning a living which is socially acceptable and personally rewarding.

If Eugene had been rich it is doubtful if he ever would have bothered with the Merchant Marine in the first place. His mother would have, in all likelihood, been much more in character as an active member of the Red Cross or an afternoon bridge club.

However, assuming for the sake of argument that the lad, despite wealth and financial independence, did enter the Merchant Marine Academy, and assuming further that his mother had "slipped" from the path of political righteousness way back in '47, we might yet wonder if a few well placed dollars, generously distributed among "friends," couldn't have gotten the boy his commission just the same and thereby avoided all this unseemly embarrassment and publicity.

R. D. New York City

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