

Guilt-by-Kinship Cases Multiply; Protests Mount

By Henry Gitano

AUG. 6 — A string of guilt-by-kinship cases have come to public attention in the past month. The facts came to light with the widely-publicized case of Eugene W. Landy who was turned down for a naval reserve commission because his mother had once been a Communist.

Landy's case was followed by that of seaman N. Pierre Gaston who was denied a naval reserve commission because his mother was accused of connections with allegedly "subversive" organizations.

RISKY PARENTS

Because his parents had bought low-cost insurance from the International Workers Order, Fred Karpoff Jr., a Cleveland metallurgist, was denied a government job. Karpoff explained: "They said my parents were a risk and that since I associated with my parents, I was a risk too."

Karpoff's parents had taken out the insurance policies in 1938; they are now in their fifties. "My parents," Karpoff

Jr. said, "still hold their insurance — it's worth about \$1,000. But what could they do? If they threw the policies away, they could never get insurance at their age. And was I supposed to stop fraternizing with my parents? They're not Communists. They have absolutely no red ties." Karpoff Jr., married and father of two children, searched five months before he landed a job.

Joseph Summers, a veteran with an honorable discharge, who lost his Navy civilian job as a security-risk, swore that the only movement he ever joined was the Boy Scouts of America.

Summers testified that during his five years of active naval service no question about his loyalty was raised. He added that his discharge from a civilian Navy post as helper to an aviation metalsmith was coupled with a hint that his parents belonged to subversive organizations.

WITCH-HUNT PREMISE

There is a very real tragedy in these cases. The victims accept the premise of their tormentors that radical political views are a "crime." Landy said that his mother "rarely ever looks at" the Daily Worker and that she is no longer in the Communist Party. Gaston said his mother had ceased her associations in 1951 when "she had no more use for them." Karpoff points out that his parents "have absolutely no red ties." Summers has his mother testify that she is not a "subversive." This is the way the witch hunt imposes its code even on many of its victims.

Another guilt-by-birth GI, John Harmon, whose character and efficiency rating while in the army were excellent, was discharged as undesirable. Harmon claims he never joined anything except the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Abyssinian Baptist Church. The army is unable to contradict him.

The core of the army charge against Harmon is that his father was reported to be a Communist. Harmon answered every question concerning himself but refused to answer questions concerning others. The army admits it lacks "knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief" as to whether John Harmon is loyal or disloyal.

Secretary of the Air Force, Donald Quarles, after a personal review, cleared Airman Stephen Branzovich of charges that he

(Continued on page 2)

Fights Witch Hunt



Actress Madeline Lee invoked four constitutional amendments in appearance before House un-American committee investigating "communism" in show business. She does sound effects of crying babies on radio and TV, and demanded angrily how she could possibly subvert audiences with baby talk.

Vaccine Results Hurt by Profits

By Myra Tanner

As the 1955 polio season comes to a close, the first preliminary statistics on the effect of the Salk vaccine indicate that inoculations provide considerable protection against the disease.

A survey of 23 states revealed that there were 261 reported cases of polio among three million children who had received shots. There were four times as many cases — 1,095 — among an equal number of non-vaccinated children between the ages of five and nine.

While these figures are not yet regarded as conclusive, they represent a cut in the incidence of polio of 75%. A similar proportion was discovered among cases of paralytic polio. Vaccinated children had a far better chance to escape the dread disease.

The first preliminary results of the use of the Salk vaccine are indeed very welcome. But at the same time, it is a terrible tragedy that we must now have statistics which include millions of children who were not vaccinated and as a result had a four times greater chance of becoming crippled.

TWO REASONS

There were two primary reasons that limited the protection of the vaccine to only a part of the children who were in the greatest danger. The government insisted on turning over the production of the vaccine to the limited facilities of private business in the interests of their profit-taking. And secondly, the foul-up came from a lack of production safeguards and resulted in the release of dangerous vaccine. Many parents were understandably frightened away from the inoculation program.

Throughout the spring when vaccine was issued and withdrawn, when vaccine often proved either murderous or ineffective, the gov-

ernment failed to clearly explain the difficulties. It protected the companies and its own incompetent Health Department. It issued vague, questioning statements about the value of the Salk discovery.

As a result there were 834 cases of polio among three million children that probably need not have been. In the final analysis there will be many thousands of unnecessary cases of polio in the United States.

Paul Martin, the Health Minister of Canada, reported that there were only two cases of polio reported among 900,000 inoculated children. That means that Canada had a ratio of one case of polio among those vaccinated to about 39 cases in the U.S.

"CREEPING SOCIALISM"

Canada's mass inoculation program was conducted entirely under the auspices of the Canadian government. But in the U.S. the Eisenhower administration, the Democratic Congress and the monopolistic American Medical Association would regard such government functions as "creeping socialism."

The end of the sacrifice of human health and life to the barbaric God of Profit is not yet in sight. The Cutter Drug Company, one of the six businesses that have been contracted to produce the vaccine, has announced its intention to give priority to stockholders in supplying the life-saving vaccine. That may be good for the company's profits, but it's certainly not good for the millions who are still unprotected from poliomyelitis.

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XIX — No. 37

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1955

PRICE: 10 Cents

Another Sacrifice to Jim Crow



MOROCCAN UNIONS PLAN GENERAL STRIKE AS FRENCH RUSH TROOPS

By George Lavan

Another outburst of fighting, even fiercer than that of August 20, may soon break out in Morocco. Moroccan workers' organizations have already called for another general strike on September 12.

While the French government and the French Big Business press is propagandizing the world with stories about the successful "solution" and "reforms" it is about to effect in the independence-seeking colony, the Moroccan people have become even more dissatisfied.

This mood is explained by four factors: (1) The highly-publicized "reforms" have been repeatedly delayed and, it is believed, greatly watered down; (2) The French Army's ten-one reprisal policy since the Aug. 20 fighting has meant the shooting of hundreds of Moroccan men, women and children, most of them unarmed and unresisting; (3) Suspensions of even greater massacres to come increase as French troops continue to pour into the colony; (4) A growing section of the Moroccan working class — the most militant section of the independence movement — is convinced the promised reforms are but window-dressing and should not be accepted. For them full independence is the goal and they believe French imperialism will never give them that, they will have to take it.

In a Sept. 4 dispatch from Casablanca unusual for the New York Times, because it is from Moroccan, not French, sources, the opinions of moderate Istiglal and Moroccan trade union (UMT) leaders are given.

MORE FRENCH TROOPS

"The nationalist and affiliated labor union circles here are

frightened and discouraged by the prospect of more bloodshed," writes the correspondent. He then describes how French troops have moved into the Moroccan neighborhoods in force; how they occupy the roofs of buildings and have set up machine guns.

Foreign Legionnaires with submachine guns patrol the streets, searching autos and demanding identification papers from passers-by. Europeans are not molested, only Moroccans.

Mass Arrests

French police on Sept. 5 rounded up thousands of Algerians resident in France as "agitators" and fund-raisers for the Movement for Democratic Liberties, which is leading the independence struggle in the North African colony. Driven from their native land by hunger, some 370,000 Algerians work in France. Like the Puerto Ricans in the U.S., they get the dirtiest work and the lowest pay.

In Algeria itself, guerrilla warfare continues despite heavy French troop reinforcements. Imperialist reprisals for the approximately 60 Europeans killed since Aug. 20 have now admittedly reached at least 1,275 Algerians killed. Roads are choked with Algerian refugees fleeing for fear their villages may be next on the French list for "collective-guilt" punishment. A number of Algerian villages have been completely leveled by French artillery as examples. In France there is great hostility to the calling up of 140,000 army reservists for North African duty.

Similarly for Moroccans there is a curfew from 8 P.M. to 5 A.M.

The Times quotes a Moroccan labor leader as saying: "Any mass demonstration on the 12th or 13th (of September) will be suicide with those machine guns raking the streets. But if ben Arafat is still on the throne what will happen? We can try a protest strike with the word that everybody must stay in his house. But it begins to look as if more thousands of innocent people will have to die before we achieve our goal."

Already one underground organization, the Heroes of Independence, has sent out a general-strike call in Casablanca for Sept. 12.

The date, Sept. 12, has particular meaning since French Prime Minister Faure has pledged that the "reform" policy will have been inaugurated by then. However, since the beginning of August the French have been announcing such dates. The "reform" proposed by former French Resident General Gilbert Grandval was supposed to be put into effect before Aug. 20 — the day upon which everyone knew there would be bloodshed if the hated French puppet ben Arafat was still on the throne.

"GRANDVAL PLAN"

Nevertheless the "Grandval Plan" was not effected by Aug. 20 and fighting raged North Africa. Although the crisis was supposed to be solved within another week, nothing happened. Even now the reform program is still a promise with Sept. 12 as the latest "deadline."

Actually the toothless reforms proposed by Grandval have now been rendered even weaker. Grandval himself has been

(Continued on page 3)

Army Retreats in Staebler Case

Army witch hunters have had to beat a limited retreat in the case of James M. Staebler, a draftee victimized for alleged pre-induction beliefs and associations. Several aspects of his case are of great significance and the top brass' retreat indicates popular pressure against the armed services' discharge policy is being felt in the Pentagon.

When Staebler, a New York resident, was inducted he refused to answer certain questions on the political questionnaire on the grounds of his rights under the Fifth Amendment.

ARMY CHARGES

On August 25, 1954 he was told by the army that it had "derogatory" information from unnamed informers that: (1) he had invoked the Fifth Amendment; (2) he allegedly had belonged to the Socialist Workers Party during 1950 and 1951, both years prior to his induction; (3) he associated with his wife, who, too, allegedly had belonged to the SWP; (4) he

allegedly had "definite Communist tendencies."

The army officially offered him three alternatives: (1) acceptance of an undesirable discharge; (2) reply in writing to a questionnaire presented by the army about his political past and beliefs; (3) a hearing before an army field board.

At this point Staebler went for help to the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, an organization for the defense of the civil liberties of all people and organizations regardless of their political views or affiliations. The ECLC took Staebler's case as a test of the unconstitutionality practices employed by the army in its witch hunt.

DECISION APPEALED

With ECLC counsel Louis Boudin preparing his case, Staebler appeared before an army field hearing on Nov. 1, 1954. The board rendered its verdict on Dec. 14, 1954: an undesirable discharge.

The ECLC appealed this decision to the Army Discharge Review Board and another hearing took place last July. Its verdict was just announced on Sept. 6: rescinding of the undesirable discharge and issuance of a general discharge under honorable conditions.

The retreat of the army is significant because in Staebler's case the issue of use of the Fifth Amendment was involved and because, in addition to the usual charge of association with politically suspect relatives, he was himself alleged to have belonged to an organization blacklisted by the Attorney General.

The retreat on Staebler is, however, only a partial victory — a victory to the extent that a general discharge is better than an undesirable discharge. However, a general discharge is not the honorable discharge that all soldiers, who completed their period of service satisfactorily, used to get before the witch hunt and to which Staebler and other GIs,

14-Year Old Negro Boy Lynched in Mississippi By White Supremacists

Prove It!

On Labor Day, Paul Butler, Democratic National Chairman, correctly branded the administration as anti-labor. He cited the union-busting campaign at McKay Motors in Salem, Oregon. This is the family-business of Douglas McKay, Secretary of the Interior. Butler's scorn of labor haters would ring truer if he announced that the Democratic Party would refuse all contributions from anti-labor employers and corporations in the coming presidential campaign.

Haiti Gripped By Hunger While Food Rots in U. S.

SEPT. 6 — Between 17,000 and 20,000 people are starving to death in Haiti. In addition 40,000 are desperately ill from malnutrition and disease. Droughts and floods added to the damage done by Hurricane Hazel last October, have brought such misery that people are dropping dead in the streets every day.

A short distance away, the United States government is paying \$20,000 an hour to store mountains of food and other farm products as part of its price-support program.

When a N. Y. Times editorial on Aug. 29 expressed regret over this terrible contrast, the Director of Public Reports for the International Cooperation Administration in Washington, William J. Caldwell, hastened to reply: "While there is no contention over your appraisal of the need for more assistance, the readers of your editorial might like a summary of what the United States has done and is doing to aid her neighbor."

Then follows a list of aid sent last fall. As for now — Caldwell points out that the U. S. acted with "prompt response" when aid was sent "six weeks" after the formal request for help had been received from the Haitian government. A "meager total," as the N. Y. Post called it, of 6,077 tons of surplus food has been authorized for Haiti.

"GET ON THE PHONE"

The N. Y. Post suggested, Aug. 31, that Eisenhower get on the phone, call Secretary of Agriculture, Benson, and say: "Ezra, there are people starving to death in Haiti. Let's send them some food. Get together with the Air Force and figure out how to do it as quickly as possible. Give me a progress report tomorrow."

A workers' government would do just that. But U. S. billionaires are in charge and they can't imagine what it's like to be hungry. There's no profit in that.

Body Sent to Chicago; Huge Crowds Gather In Dramatic Protest

By John Thayer

The degenerate brutality of America's Jim Crow system revealed itself in full horror on August 31 when the lynched body of 14-year old Emmett Louis Till was found near Greenwood, Missis-

sippi.

The body revealed that terrible torture — almost all the teeth knocked out, right side of the head beaten in — had preceded the gunshot through the temple that killed the young Negro boy, whose mother had sent him from Chicago for a summer vacation with relatives in the Deep South. Young Till was kidnapped and murdered by white supremacists because of a fancied "insult" to a white woman. The "insult" consisted in his whistling outside a grocery store which he had just left with five friends. The wife of the store owner, who had waited on the boys, overheard the whistle, interpreted it as a "wolf" whistle, and concluded the 14-year old Negro had thereby insulted Southern white womanhood in her person.

The warped white supremacist minds of storekeeper Roy Bryant, his wife, Mrs. Bryant, a clerk

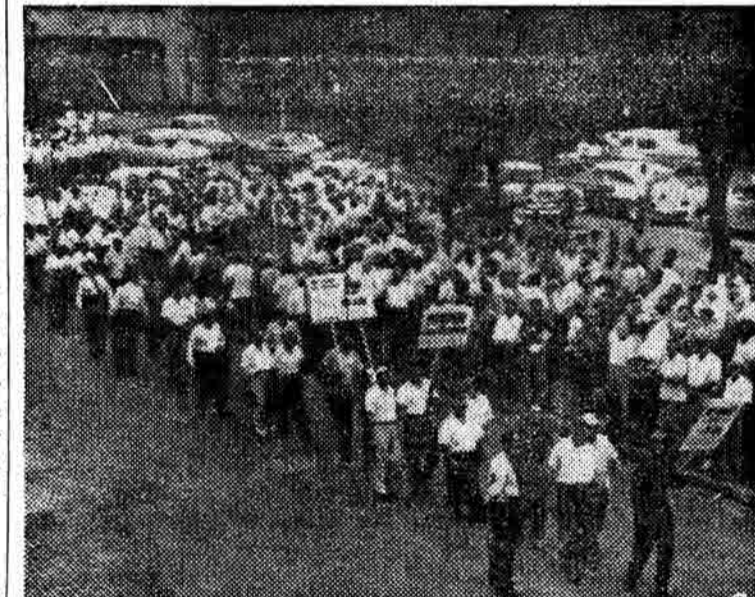
(Bryant's half-brother), J. W. Milam and possibly another unknown white man decided that 14-year old Emmett Till should pay with his life.

On Aug. 28 at 2:30 in the morning a car drove up to the home of tenant farmer Moses Smith, the boy's uncle. Leaving Mrs. Bryant in the car, Bryant, Milam and possibly another white man got out and entered Smith's house. Entering the Smith's bedroom they demanded which of the eight Negroes in the house was "the boy from Chicago." Mr. Smith pleaded with them not to take the lad off and, that unwilling, to "just take him out in the yard and whip him." While her husband pleaded, the boy's aunt tried to go tell the boy's hide but the lynchers prevented her.

Young Till was dragged to the car where Mrs. Bryant identified

(Continued on page 2)

Picket Harvester Plant



Workers picket the Intl. Harvester plant in Chicago, as 40,000 members of the United Auto Workers (CIO) struck 18 I. H. plants in six states to back up wage demands. Rank-and-file militancy was manifested in early walkouts and in the appearance of new fighting leadership in locals.

Dock Strike Answers Invasion of Union Hall

By James O'Hara

NEW YORK, Sept. 7 — Members of the independent International Longshoremen's Association walked off New York piers today in a port-wide strike to force a showdown on the New York-New Jersey police agency, The Waterfront Commission.

The latest walkout started with a small but significant incident. The dockers had been called to a mass meeting of the union on a west side pier to hear reports of the ILA leadership. Agents of the Waterfront Commission insisted on attending the meeting. The meeting was then promptly adjourned into a "go home and no work."

Captain Bradley, ILA spokesman, charged that the Waterfront Commission was now invading the closed meetings of the union and interfering with the right of free assembly. In Brooklyn the waterfront commission agents were informed that they could attend the meeting "at their own risk." The agents beat a retreat back to their offices.

This latest strike comes two weeks after a three-day walkout of the rank and file in Manhattan. At that time the ILA hierarchy managed to end the

walkout by promising that the union would organize a strike if all other efforts to settle the Waterfront Commission issue failed.

During the past two weeks Bradley tried his best to convince the Governors of New York and New Jersey to personally intervene to prevent a strike. Both Governors are standing behind the Waterfront Commission and refused to make any efforts that Bradley could use to indicate progress. The entire boss press of this area is making this fight a principled class issue and warning Albany and Trenton against compromise.

The waterfront boss association went into court today and secured an injunction ordering all longshoremen back to work. They also filed a \$10 million damage suit against the union. But both incidents are ignored by the ILA rank and file who are determined to settle accounts with the Waterfront Commission once and for all.

Working Mothers And Delinquency

By Joyce Cowley

Ex-President Truman has a cure for juvenile delinquency. He's joined the judges and politicians and police officials who, with monotonous regularity, tell mothers to stay at home.

Several working mothers interviewed by the New York Post said they would be glad to stay home if someone would take care of their bills. A Cleveland mother, ordered by the judge to quit her job and "raise her son properly" told him she had the same problem. How could she raise her son and five other children "properly" on her husband's meager salary? When he threatened to send her to the workhouse for a year, she agreed to stop working.

A second mother put up a fight. She insisted that she must keep her job in order to pay for a new home so that she could move her son out of the slum neighborhood that was one of the fairly obvious causes of his delinquency. When the judge said he would put her boy in a detention home and charge her \$4 a day board, she told him to go ahead. There was so much protest that after a few days the boy was released to the custody of an uncle until his parents could move into the new home.

Statistics don't back up Truman and the Cleveland judge, who use attacks on working mothers as a sleight-of-hand technique to divert attention from the real issues. A recent article in McCall's, "Is A Working Mother A Threat to the Home?" tells about a study of 20,000 Detroit delinquents made over a period of eight years by social scientists at Wayne University in cooperation with the Detroit Police Dept.

This study indicates that children of working mothers have a delinquency rate 10% lower than that of children whose mothers stayed at home.

"Delinquency," McCall's explains, "is most prevalent in very low-income families. . . if the woman in such a situation has enough gumption and self-respect to go out to work — on top of her regular housework — it means she is still struggling. Her children have something to cling to. There is some hope in their lives. 'There are plenty of things that are worse for children,' says Judge Polier of the N.Y. Children's Court, 'than finding mother at work when you come home from school. Perhaps the worst is finding her resigned to hopelessness.'"

Dr. Lauretta Bender, senior psychiatrist at Bellevue, is another authority who doesn't be-

lieve that "bad" parents and homes are the basic cause of delinquency. She says she has found that children have "an amazing capacity to tolerate bad parents, poor teachers, dreadful homes and communities" and the real question for the experts is: "Why are so many of our children not delinquent?"

I'm glad a great many young people have the physical and emotional fortitude to overcome what look like insurmountable difficulties, but instead of just wondering how they do it, I think we should give them some help.

The assorted politicians, judges and officials who suggest economical methods of delinquency control like forcing a mother to stay home whether or not she has a home or urging both parents to regularly beat their kids to make them "good," rarely suggest anything that takes money.

Of course, a police chief may urge that we get more cops but there is a possibility of self-interest involved here. You don't hear much from these people about over-crowded schools, slum clearance, playgrounds, clinics or guidance bureaus in the schools.

Right now in New York City there are 100 vacancies in the Bureau of Attendance which attempts to handle truancy problems and might be of some help in the earliest stages of delinquency. Salaries are so low that no one applies for the jobs.

The Bureau asked if a small increase in funds could be included in the new city budget. Of course, their request was brushed aside but I don't remember any judge or police official denouncing the Board of Estimate. A working mother, struggling to provide a better environment for her children is a much easier target.

There is one thing wrong with this mother. She's working alone, and it will take the combined efforts of all parents to bring a real change in the conditions in which our young people grow up. The first step parents should take is to turn the heat on these politicians who are really responsible for the present mess and who condemn "working mothers" and "bad parents" so they won't have to admit their own failure and guilt.

The Case of Corporal Dickenson

By Lee Stephen

"Corporal Edward S. Dickenson. Remember him?" "Dickenson? Dickenson?" "Cracker's Neck, Virginia. Mountain boy; one of 23 POW's in Korea who. . ."

"Oh. Yeah. Turncoat." "He was the first one to change his mind. Came home." "Yeah. Yeah, I remember now. Court-martialed him, didn't they? After first treating him as a hero or something?" "That's him. Gave him ten years at hard labor. . ."

Until October 1953 very few people had ever heard of Edward Dickenson, and today few people recognize his name, or if they do, they can't think why. Yet, less than two years ago, there was hardly a person in the entire world within sight of a newspaper or within hearing of a

radio, who didn't know about Cpl. Edward S. Dickenson, the Virginia mountain boy who walked away from the "Reds" — "to freedom." Why did Dickenson's case disappear so quickly? Its historical aspects alone merit more attention; he was the first prisoner of war to be court-martialed on charges growing out of the Korean war; his was called "the first court-martial of its kind in military history." He was the first soldier to be tried and convicted under Article 105 of the revised Uniform Code of Military Justice — a law that was being formulated at the time of Dickenson's army enlistment in 1950. The law didn't even go into effect until May 31, 1951, six months after Dickenson became an unwilling inmate of Korean POW Camp No. 5 at Pyoktong, and its constitutionality has never been tested.

"Be Generous and Humane"

In 1950 when "turncoat" Dickenson, at the urging of the U.S. Army, decided to come home to "freedom" and be treated as a "hero," President Eisenhower was in the forefront of those pleading that the American people be charitable in its judgment. He was sure, said Eisenhower,

that "this lad that was coming back would never regret that decision." The president sided with the folks of Cracker's Neck when they gave Ed a hero's welcome, and said: "We have an obligation to the men who have suffered. We have an opportunity to illustrate the quality of

the freedom to which they can return."

A few weeks later, when Eisenhower's Army heads illustrated the quality of that freedom by arresting Dickenson as soon as they could no longer use him as a decoy to lure the other 21 "turncoats" to "freedom," the Commander-in-Chief kept right on talking.

As his M.P.'s forcibly removed Dickenson from Walter Reed Hospital to the stockade at Fort Belvoir, Va., Eisenhower "hoped the public would. . . be generous and humane" to Dickenson, pointing out that "people sitting in the comparative safety of home should not be too sure of what they would have done under similar circumstances. . ."

While the generals marshaled secret testimony to try Corporal Dickenson on charges that could result in his being put to death, Eisenhower still talked, urging the nation to be lenient and to read the Bible story about the prodigal son who returned home to feasting and merrymaking.

But when the court-martial sentenced the prodigal son to ten years at hard labor on the basis of testimony that wouldn't have stood up in any civilian court in the land, Eisenhower didn't open his mouth. And since then, during more than a year

of reviews and appeals, when he might have spoken at any time, no word has come from Bible-quoting Ike.

Eisenhower isn't alone in ignoring the mountain lad's constitutional rights. No civil liberties group, no prominent intellectual went to Dickenson's aid, though he was convicted largely on "evidence" that, thin as it was, was illegally obtained.

The New York Times front-paged the leniency shown by the court-martial which freed Col. Frank Schwable after he had signed germ warfare statements while a POW in Korea. Yet few readers waded as far back as page 15 that day to learn that the other court-martial displayed no such "mercy" to the corporal, as was showered on the corporal.

The 23-year-old Dickenson, who had been in the Army less than nine months when he was captured at the age of 20, was dishonorably discharged and sentenced to 10 years at hard labor, plus forfeiture of his civil rights.

Ignore the repulsive double-standard that allows for the freeing of Col. Schwable and the wholesale clearance of scores of Air Force officers and men facing similar charges that brought the harsh sentencing of Dickenson; shelve for the moment the sinister nature of the court-martial itself wherein the accusers are also judge and jury. Even leave aside the fundamental question of whose bidding it was that an unprepared farm youth found himself freezing in far Korea: the responsibility, that is, for there being such a status as a "Police Action" POW in the first place. Just consider the conviction of Dickenson on evidence alone, and the rawness of the frame-up glares forth.

The Army was feeling its way in the Dickenson case; it had no precedent. But it did all right nonetheless. The brass worked hard, and from the moment Dickenson left Panmunjom he traveled all unknowingly in the shadow of the stockade. For months army spies secretly gathered depositions against him, coralling stoolpigeons and tricking the unsuspecting Dickenson into making statements which were illegally used against him at the trial.

And with it all, the case stank. Here is the kind of testimony on which they finally had to convict Dickenson:

Witness: Cpl. Johnny Moore. Testified Dickenson "partially" influenced him on communist philosophy; Dickenson asked him why "the United States executed Ethel and Julius Rosenberg for merely fighting for peace." (This same Johnny Moore is presently in a military prison in San Pedro, Calif., awaiting trial on charges almost identical with those against Dickenson.)

Witness: Cpl. Franklin Barrett of Richmond, Va. (Moore and Barrett were roommates of Dickenson at Camp No. 5, Pyoktong.) Barrett said Dickenson "tried" to convince him that the United States used germ warfare. Dickenson denied this charge, as he did the others. However, since Col. Schwable's statements on germ warfare were being circulated among the POW's couldn't a lowly corporal be forgiven for believing them?

Witness: Cpl. Tommy Carrick of Blacksburg, Va., a "buddy" who shared a foxhole with Dickenson before his capture in 1950. Carrick reported he "overheard" a conversation between a voice he "recognized" as Dickenson's and that of a Chinese political instructor, in which "Dickenson's voice" reported the escape plans of other prisoners.

Later in the trial, Carrick appeared at the court-martial and begged them to strike out his testimony. He said he "couldn't be sure of the incident;" it might not have been Dickenson's voice after all; it had been three years and he couldn't remember. But the prosecutors refused to strike out his testimony; they needed it, flimsy as it was, recanted though it was, so hard-pressed were they to convict Dickenson!

Witness: Wallace Dunham, Covington, Ky. Said Dickenson tried to "sound him out" on communism.

Witness: Sgt. John A. Davis, Niagara Falls, N.Y. Testified he saw Dickenson refuse "chow" to a sick prisoner; a "little argument" followed and Dickenson "pushed the man down three stairs."

Witness: Alexander Luther, neighbor and fellow prisoner of Dickenson's who'd been returned in the original prisoner exchange. He "got" for the prosecution a letter Dickenson had written to his mother in Feb. 1953, which "voiced the communist line" saying the peace talks were stalled on one issue only, repatriation, and that all prisoners should be returned to the country of their origin.

Witness: Former Sgt. Barney M. Younger, Jr., of Hamlin, Va. Said he heard Dickenson say over a public address system at Prison Camp No. 5 that he was going to "fight for peace."

Witness: Edward Gaither, former soldier from Philadelphia. Testified he'd been brutally beaten by the Chinese and put before a mock firing squad after he'd told Dickenson of his plans to escape. Gaither's attitude was so antagonistic toward Dickenson that defense counsel was moved to ask the witness: "Do you have a good memory when you're out to get someone?"

And the witness shouted: "Yes, if he deserves it;" then leaned forward angrily under Dickenson's steady regard to scream: "Don't you like it?"

The defense mixed him up rather badly in regard to sequence of events, and even this hostile witness couldn't claim that he actually heard, or even overheard, Dickenson informing; merely that he had been beaten up after having told Dickenson of his escape plans. It was further brought out that Dickenson himself had attempted escape at the same time and had also been brought back and punished.

General Dean's Testimony

Guy Emery, the retired army officer appointed as Dickenson's defense counsel, didn't do so well by the corporal, though it might not have been his fault. He later charged that the Army had instructed prospective witnesses not to cooperate with the defense. The fact remains that except for the general testimony given by the psychiatrists, not one witness for Dickenson was put on the stand, while the prosecution produced scores of adverse witnesses.

A deposition from Major General William Dean was introduced by the defense, but disallowed by the prosecution, though much of its own evidence against Dickenson was in the form of absentee depositions. Major General Dean, a veteran of the prison camps, was volatile, before the army shut him up, in defense of the inexperienced soldier who "capitulated" under prison pressure. Dean himself said suicide was the only sure defense against capitulation.

On his attorney's advice, Dickenson "waived his right to testify in his own behalf after being told his silence wouldn't be construed as guilt." His

"The Army Lied to Him"

One explanation for the army's vicious handling of Dickenson is its rage at having outsmarted itself: Going against the Geneva Convention, the United States, playing footsie with Chiang Kai-shek, proposed that prisoners of war not be returned automatically to their own countries, as had been traditional; rather that prisoners be given the choice of repatriation or not.

It expected merely to hand over to the butcher on Formosa thousands of Chinese soldiers to be used against their homeland. And Dickenson had to pay the price of the brass' rage at the boomeranging of their cleverness.

Still Article of War No. 105 refers to "time of war." Didn't they say the Korean conflict was merely a "police action?" Apparently "police action" can mean anything they want it to mean. In reviewing the court-martialing of a soldier charged with being drunk on duty as sentry in Korea, the United States Court of Appeals which is now reviewing Dickenson's case, ruled (U. S. vs. Aldridge, No. 2886) that a formal declaration of war by congress is not essential to the creation of a "time of war."

So there they were, with Article 105 shiny new, and never used. The brass must have been aching to try it out, and Dickenson must have seemed made to order, just for them. It was a set-up, and they went to work on him.

Dickenson might have had something when he told the psychiatrists that "nobody really cared for him." Certainly no

one was largely Gaither's testimony that convicted Dickenson. The N.Y. Times reported: "Apart from general collaboration with the Chinese communists during the two and a half years that he was a prisoner, the corporal was also convicted of informing on a fellow American who planned to escape."

At the close of the Dickenson trial, Col. Robert G. Bard, chief trial counsel, conceded to reporters that it had been a "difficult one to try." He added that the main difference between the Dickenson case and Schwable's was that "Schwable had been unwilling and Dickenson had been willing."

Now, the army has since decided that there wasn't any such foolishness as "brainwashing." "In fact, no American military prisoner was 'brainwashed' during the entire Korean War." (page 7, Statement of New Military Code Committee, THIS WEEK MAGAZINE, July 17, 1955.) So, if un-brainwashed Colonel Schwable was unwilling, how come he confessed to germ warfare? Will they now review the Schwable case, since they convicted Dickenson merely because he was "willing?"

mother, his only witness, drove all night from Cracker's Neck to Washington to appear in her son's defense, but collapsed from a "nervous heart attack" outside the hearing room, and her appearance was cancelled.

The N. Y. Times on May 2, 1954 treated the outrageous proceedings with something less than white-hot anger, but it did point to one salient fact: "The only witness who actually claimed that he personally overheard Dickenson informing on his comrades, asked that his testimony be thrown out on grounds that he wasn't sure of it." But the army refused to heed Carrick's pleading.

It is a curious coincidence that the measure (HR 4080) authorizing revision of the Articles of War standing since 1920 was signed by Eisenhower on May 5, 1950, and on May 5, 1954, Dickenson who had enlisted in the Army while they were still discussing Article 105 became its first victim.

No doubt the Army thought it had provided for every emergency in the 1950 revision of the code but how could it foresee the aftermath of the Korean conflict when American soldiers would choose not to come home?

hue and cry went up about the searing injustice done him in the sentencing.

True, at the beginning of the court-martial two congressional representatives voiced tentative protest at the "persecution of the mere country boy victimized by shrewd propaganda techniques." But when they saw that this line harvested no political hay, they shut their mouths. And in the White House sanctimonious Ike was instructing the nation to read Luke 15:11; but he didn't even lift his head from his Bible reading to so much as a beat when the harsh sentence was handed out.

From Hattiesburg, Mississippi, came a lone action: two days after the sentencing, Albert L. White of the Perry County draft board, resigned in protest over the persecution of Dickenson, stating "the army lied to him, and if it will lie to one, it will lie to another! The army told Cpl. Dickenson that if he would give up communism and come back to the United States he would be given his freedom. Instead he gets ten years at hard labor and his citizenship taken away from him. I don't call that freedom!"

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 116 University Place New York 3, New York

... GUILT-BY-KINSHIP

(Continued from page 1)

was a security risk because he associated with his allegedly Communist father.

Demanding a hearing, Branzovich said: "I am only accused of being the son of my father." In its charges the Air Force had also listed the airman's interview on Jan. 7, 1954 at which he refused to answer whether his father was sympathetic to the Communist Party, whether his father outspokenly favored communism and whether his father had indoctrinated him with ideas or opinions about communism.

Branzovich was cleared without capitulating to the Air Force's attempt to have him inform on his father. The airman demanded that charges be placed against him, not his father, and he did not deny associating with his parents.

Martin J. Wishnoff of New York was fired as a security risk by his in-laws. Neither Wishnoff, who was a civilian inspector for the Signal Corps, nor his wife, were accused of being "subversive." But the woman he married was accused in a security hearing of maintaining friendly relations with her parents.

Wishnoff told the Army Security hearing that he had been previously cleared. He was informed that the previous clearance dealt with "loyalty," while presently, he was under suspicion regarding "security."

While guilt-by-blood cases were piling up, the Senate subcommittee investigating the Federal security program with the audacity of an anemic snail, held a three-day public session.

Mrs. Beatrice M. Campbell, suspended for four months from her non-sensitive Veterans Administration job and later reinstated, testified that she had been told of her suspension only 15 minutes before quitting time, escorted to the door, denied re-entry, and then docked for the quarter-hour lost.

She was accused of belonging to, and recruiting members for, the Washington Book Shop Association, listed as subversive. Mrs. Campbell swore she had joined the group briefly, solely to get

discounts on books, but that she had never attended its meetings and had not asked others to join.

Joseph Earl Vargo, a Navy veteran of 21 years service, told the Senate subcommittee how he had been dismissed from the State Department because of his marriage to a Russian woman fifteen years before. Vargo swore that his marriage had been approved by U.S. authorities when he was stationed in Moscow. He said that Robert J. Ryan, assistant personnel director, nonetheless, accused him of "associating" with his wife in Moscow.

The celebrated case of Wolf Ladejinsky who was labeled a security risk by the Agriculture Department, then promptly hired by the Foreign Operations Administration for work in Indo-China, never reached first base. Department of Agriculture officials failed to show up at the hearing.

Abraham Chasanow who was dismissed from the Navy Hydrographic Office and reinstated 13 months later, with apologies for having been a victim of "grave injustice," appeared before the subcommittee. He proposed reforms, including action against informers whose accusations are false and government financing of legal expenses for its witch-hunt victims.

The dilemma of Eleanor and Sanford Waxer of Detroit was given an airing. Eleanor Waxer, a civilian army employee at Fort Knox was suspended as a security risk. The charge relates to "association" with a member of the Michigan Progressive Party. Mrs. Waxer testified she had no idea even as to the alleged associate's identity.

Also appearing was Sanford Waxer who had been given a less-than-honorable discharge from the army. One charge against Waxer was that he associated with Dr. Alfred Kelly of Wayne University. In the army's charges against Waxer, Dr. Kelly was described as a contributor to the blacklisted American Youth for Democracy. Testimony revealed that Dr. Kelly's only "contribution" to AYD was to investigate and help ban it from the campus.

... Lynching in Mississippi

(Continued from page 1)

him as "the one." He was shoved in and the car and the lynchers drove away.

BODY IN RIVER

Three days later a fisherman's line caught on a body in the Tallahatchie river a few miles away. The nude body was anchored down with a 100-lb. cotton-gin fan tied to the upper part of the torso with barbed wire, but the feet were floating upward near the surface.

Hoisted out of the river, the body proved to be that of 14-year old Emmett Till. Local authorities wanted to get it buried quickly but Till's mother, 33-year old Mrs. Mamie Bradley, insisted it be shipped to Chicago for burial.

Mrs. Bradley's insistence on her son's body being sent to Chicago has proved wise. She and others there have positively identified it. This is important because one of the dodges now being prepared in Mississippi for the acquittal of the lynchers, or for giving them brief sentences on charges other than murder, is the claim that the body found in the Tallahatchie is not Till's.

Local Mississippi officials are saying they don't believe the body is Till's even though Till's uncle and others so identified it immediately after it was found. Nonetheless in Summer, Mississippi, the district attorney told the grand jury that it was doubtful that a body could decompose as much in three days as the one found. The official angle is that if it can be ruled that the body found had been in

Tells Truth

Sen. Wayne Morse (D., Ore.) declared Aug. 10 that the present employment record is based on "false prosperity."

Jobs are not keeping pace with population growth, he said, and in some areas chronic unemployment has reached "disastrous proportions."

the river more than three days it could not be Till's.

Also noteworthy is the fact that though Bryant and Milam have been indicted for Till's slaying, Mrs. Bryant has not been arrested or named in the indictment. The attitude of the chivalrous "law-enforcement" agencies of Mississippi is that they do not wish to trouble a woman — a white woman, that is.

In Chicago the grief-stricken mother insisted the tortured body of her son be put on view at an undertaking parlor so that all might see what the Jim Crow system had done. For days thousands of Negro and white people have filed past the body of the lynched boy.

To the horrified protest that came from Chicago and other parts of the country, Gov. White of Mississippi replied the crime was not a lynching, as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People had branded it, but ordered an investigation.

However, while these and other steps were being taken to appease indignation outside the Deep South, other plans were already being put into effect to get the two indicted lynchers off scot free or with light sentences.

LYNCHERS' STORY

Bryant and Milam have also been indicted for kidnapping. This carries a much lighter sentence — maximum ten years — than murder and has already been admitted to by them. Their story now is that they took the boy from his uncle's home in the middle of the night but released him unharmed.

In addition to official "doubt" about the body, Sheriff H. C. Strider declares that he has little murder evidence against Bryant and Milam and that the case is "circumstantial."

No attempt has been made to question Mrs. Bryant, who now can't be "found," nor has any serious attempt apparently been made to trace the 100-lb. cotton-gin fan which weighted the boy's body.

In Chicago Mrs. Bradley, the

lynched boy's mother, told reporters: "I've seen the body, and there is no doubt of any kind in my mind. I've established his identity beyond the shadow of a doubt. This is my boy. This is just an attempt by those people down in Mississippi to wriggle out of this crime."

"They don't want any precedent that a white man can be punished for killing a Negro. They're determined to avoid punishing the men responsible for this awful thing."

Roy Wilkins, executive secretary of the NAACP, declared that "the killers of the boy felt free to lynch him because there is in the entire state no restraining influence of decency."

ANTI-NEGRO CAMPAIGN

Wilkins was referring to the anti-Negro campaign in Mississippi which has intensified ever since the Supreme Court decision on school segregation. White Citizens Councils have instituted a campaign of terror against Negroes believed to favor integration or voting.

On May 7 Rev. G. W. Lee, an NAACP leader in Belzoni, Miss., was murdered because he had refused to remove his name from the voting register.

On Aug. 13 another Negro, who "meddled in politics," Lamar Smith, was shot down in front of the Lincoln County, Mississippi, courthouse.

The white supremacist belief that anything can be done to Negroes with impunity has been further inflamed by the state's arrogant refusal to accept as votes those ballots cast by Negroes in the recent elections.

Average wages for women are still far below that of men. The Bureau of Labor Statistics in its July, 1955, Report gave this unofficial description of the "average" male and female worker. The male worker averaged 40.3 hours at \$1.88 per hour, giving him a weekly wage of \$75.76. The female worker averaged only a little above \$30 a week.

Settlements Without Strikes

When the CIO United Auto Workers signed a contract with Ford early this summer, it opened a general wage-gain movement that encompassed almost every section of U.S. industry.

From its victory at Ford the UAW went on to sign up the other two giants of auto — General Motors and Chrysler — and then won similar gains from smaller corporations under its jurisdiction.

The CIO Steelworkers took a straight cash increase in Big Steel, and in the canning industry won cash and a supplementary unemployment insurance plan superior to that granted by the auto industry.

Lesser gains were registered by the International Union of Electrical Workers (CIO) in its settlement with General Electric arrived at a month before the old agreement expired.

These gains were scored without any official or drawn-out strikes. As a result the union bureaucrats, who have no stomach for fight, are engaging in a display of smug self-congratulation. They are teaming up with Big Business propagandists to preach that the class struggle has become outmoded in the United States and that this year's peaceful settlements have become the norm for all time.

The very premise for this year's union gains gives the lie to this contention. While no large-scale strike battles took place, the union negotiators brought to the bargaining table the might of 15 million workers organized as a class force in their unions.

These unions were built in the course of some of the most militant strike battles ever recorded in world labor history. The employers knew that the union representatives were negotiating from strength. It was their decision not to try to meet the power of the workers head-on at this time, but continue collaboration with the union

Double Cross on Vietnam Elections

On Aug. 30, Secretary of State Dulles told a news conference that elections to unite North and South Vietnam were not possible at this time.

Such elections are scheduled to take place by next July according to the agreement reached between the Vietminh and the French government at Geneva last year. This agreement had the unofficial support of the Eisenhower Administration.

There can't be any nation-wide elections in Indo-China, is the alibi given by a Sept. 3 N. Y. Times editorial, until a strong, popularly elected government in South Vietnam stands behind Premier Diem. Otherwise the North Vietnam regime would walk away with the elections.

Just when this popular government behind the U.S. puppet premier will come into being, the Times does not venture to say. But it admits that "it would not be easy to conduct a first general election in South Vietnam."

The cause for the difficulty is simply this: the majority of the South Vietnamese already favor the Ho Chi Minh regime in the North and will not give their backing to Diem.

There Is No Middle Road

Once upon a time — many years ago — there existed among the capitalist liberals a group which genuinely believed in political freedom — and fought for it.

They believed in "free enterprise," of course, but they thought it held a promise for a happier future for man. They thought the meanness, the poverty and the tyranny of the system could be eliminated by the efforts of men and women of "good will."

Being people of "good will" they often joined with radicals in the fight for civil liberties. They reasoned that man needed free air to breathe, to investigate, think, speak, write and act. All this was necessary if the world were to eventually be a better place to live.

Today this species is almost extinct. Only a rare individual survives here and there.

Capitalism has entered its period of decline. Today there is no longer any room for "free enterprise," or freedom of thought in the old competitive manner.

Their Morals and Ours

By LEON TROTSKY

All the "moralistic" arguments of anti-Marxists — from the heroic charge that Lenin and the Bolsheviks were "amoral" to the current accusation that the guiding Marxist maxim is that "the end justifies the means" — are answered in this classic work.

64 pages 25 cents

Order from
PIONEER PUBLISHERS
116 University Place New York 3, N. Y.

Background of the Israel-Arab Conflict

By Daniel Roberts

Daily skirmishes take place in the Gaza strip between Egyptian and Israeli forces. Every truce is short-lived. The danger of a new war between Arab and Israeli armies may be imminent.

Sympathy of the U. S. Big Business press in the majority is for Israel. Here, they say, is a progressive country bringing Western enlightenment, industry and sanitation to a backward area of the world. Against them is arrayed an overwhelming number of benighted people led by feudalists who threaten war out of fear of social progress.

This touching portrait of Little David Israel facing an Arab Goliath is also the one painted by the Zionist movement. But it does not accord with reality. Historic right in the Arab-Israel conflict lies wholly on the side of the Arabs. They are the aggrieved party.

It is enough to cite the fact that 900,000 Palestinian Arabs were driven out of their country by Israeli troops in 1948. At that time the total population of the country was 1,900,000. These people had a history in Palestine dating back over one thousand years. It is their homeland. Since 1948 the refugee Arabs have lived in camps on the borders of Israel under conditions verging on starvation.

To be sure, Palestine — the land area covered by the present Israeli state — was the Jewish homeland in Biblical times, but it held only a small Jewish population in 1920 when sizeable Zionist migrations began. Even in 1947 — on the eve of the Israel-Arab war — the majority in Palestine was Arab. After the expulsion of the Arabs the Jews outnumbered them within the country seven-to-one.

The Zionists were permitted entry into Palestine by British imperialism to check the Arab national independence movement. It is this movement, engulfing Arab countries from Morocco to Iran, that alone holds out hope for genuine political and economic advance to the 60 million Arabs. The aim of the independence movement is to smash the domination of imperialism, and this program when carried through to the end means also the uprooting of all feudal land relations and the beginning of a socialist transformation. This is what the history of all colonial struggles has demonstrated.

The Arab national movement in Palestine acquired great strength during the course of World War I as a movement against Turkish domination. The British troops during the course of the war occupied the country, and the Arabs then made their demands for self-rule on the English government. British imperialism pretended to honor these claims.

At the same time through the Balfour Declaration, it announced that it would help establish a Jewish homeland in Palestine. The British government declared, however, that Zionist claims to take over Palestine for the Jews would have to be squared with Arab demands for national self-determination. The British government set itself up as umpire in the situation. In 1922 the League of Nations — the imperialist thieves' kitchen, as Lenin called it — endorsed the Balfour Declaration and gave British imperialism a mandate over Palestine.

DIVIDE AND RULE

With the Balfour declaration, British imperialism began the game of divide and rule in the Near East, using the Zionist claims to check the legitimate aspirations of the Arab masses. The same game is now being played by U. S. imperialism — the new controlling power in the near and middle East. The Zion-

L. A. Forum Hears Four-Cornered Debate on "Peaceful Coexistence"

World Events

By Ernest Rief

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 29 — An audience of approximately 100 heard the subject, "Is Coexistence the Means to Peace?" debated here last night by a panel consisting of Thomas Kerry, Chairman of the Los Angeles Branch of the Socialist Workers Party; Edward DeLaney, McCarthyite columnist and radio commentator; Reuben W. Borough, representing the Independent Progressive Party Committee; and Howard Jarvis, of the Los Angeles County Republican Party.

The symposium was sponsored by the Los Angeles Community Forum.

THE CAUSES OF WAR

Kerry demonstrated the worthlessness of peaceful coexistence as a means to achieve peace by analyzing the economic and political forces that are driving capitalism toward another world war. He showed how the capitalist countries, particularly the United States, are irrevocably committed to the production of armaments as a means to avert another depression, and how this, together with the organic need of capitalism for new markets to exploit is leading inevitably to war.

Kerry also showed how the rising of the masses in the colonial countries after World War II had aggravated the internal contradictions of the capitalist system, propelling the imperialists toward a show-down fight to put down the revolutionary challenge to capitalism.

Peaceful coexistence, Kerry explained, is the policy capitalism employs today as a necessary expedient to gain time and pursue its long-range preparations for World War III. To pass off this policy as a genuine striving for peace is a cruel deception of the working people which can only aid in war preparation.

Borough, who presented the Stalinist view, refrained from making any connection between capitalism and the war danger. His main argument was that the horror of the H-bomb was so great that no one dares to start a war, thereby making coexistence a feasible policy.

OPPOSES 'POWER BLOCS'

Ignoring the basic reason for the existence of the antagonistic Soviet and Western blocs in the world today, Borough cited the opposition of Thomas Jefferson to "power blocs" in international relations. After thus ascribing the war danger to evil diplomatic practices, Borough declared that we must all learn from American history.

Thereupon he completely forgot that American history is marked by such events as the Revolutionary War and the Civil War and made the statement that man has only progressed by peaceful coexistence.

Where would we be if the 13 colonies had elected to peacefully coexist with the tyranny of King George III? Or if we had coexisted forever with the Slavery of the South? Borough did not answer these questions.

Nor did he mention the fact that the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America are refusing to coexist with the modern tyrants of imperialism and their agents. In his remarks, Kerry made crystal clear that it was the right and duty of the oppressed colonial people to defend themselves by every means from the brutality and terrorism of imperialism. In contrast to this position, Borough proposed that the United Nations commissions investigate, report and "resolve" such problems.

The fact that the embattled colonial people of North Africa have unsuccessfully attempted to put their case before the UN was not even mentioned.

DIPLOMACY THE KEY

Jarvis, the Republican defender of the peaceful coexistence policy agreed with Borough that diplomacy was the key to peace. He gave, however, some rather astonishing examples to prove his point. The bloody settlement in Korea, the savage counter-revolutionary victory in Iran, the imperialist dominated Latin American conference in Caracas, and the war-like North Atlantic Treaty Organization — all these were cited by Jarvis as examples of the "diplomatic" road to peace.

Jarvis admitted that the arms economy is at least partly responsible for prosperity (though this was flatly denied by Borough). Jarvis also claimed that we don't know what socialism will do, and that we can't afford to risk it.

Kerry replied: "It's true we don't have socialism anywhere yet. Socialism presupposes the world-wide victory of the working class over capitalism. But we DO know what capitalism has done: It has instigated two

... Moroccan Unions Prepare

(Continued from page 1)

dumped, a sacrifice to the reactionary French colonial planters and capitalists in Morocco and to the French banks with heavy Moroccan investments who breathe fire at the suggestion of even token concessions to the Moroccan people.

In his place has been named a new ruler for the colony — Lieutenant-General Pierre Boyer de la Tour. According to the usually reliable, conservative Paris paper, Le Monde, Boyer de la Tour is an outstanding leader of French militarist circles in North Africa. This top military group is reactionary to the core and most hostile to the idea of "appeasing" Moroccan nationalism. Although he is being presented to the public as the man who will put into effect what is left of the "Grand Plan," Le Monde reveals that he is highly critical of it.

Significant news which the French were unable to suppress is troubling the French military. On the night of Sept. 2 a group of five soldiers of a French Moroccan regiment deserted to guerrillas in the Khenifra area, taking their automatic weapons and a machine gun with them.

Fighting is still going on in the mountainous interior of Morocco. The French are devastating whole areas in reprisal. Behind them nothing remains standing save the charred remains of burnt Moroccan huts and haystacks.

French delays on the "reform" for Morocco do not appear to be held up now by the opposition of the French North African lobbies. Apparently they have accepted the compromise offered by Faure, the details of which are not known, but which was signaled by the dumping of Grandval and the appointment of Boyer de la Tour. Now the French cabinet delays in order to wring concessions from the Istiglal. In return for the smallest concessions — such as the right of Istiglal leaders to visit the deposed pro-nationalist Sultan ben Youssef in his Madagascar imprisonment — they are demanding that Istiglal leaders and ben Youssef write a blank-check endorsement of the coming "reform" government for Morocco.

Istiglal policy appears divided. Several leaders, who were at Aix-les-Bains for discussions with the French cabinet, have made a deal and are now en route to Madagascar.

Although French officials still refer to their puppet sultan's "divine mission" he is apparently going to be discarded soon. A three-man council will then declare the throne temporarily empty and itself a regency. The composition of this council will be one French puppet, one nationalist (who will supposedly represent moderate Istiglal opinion, even if the Istiglal refuses to participate) and a religious authority on Moslem law.

Since the French will appoint the council they will control at least two votes out of three. This council will set up a "government" subordinate to the French Resident General, that will supposedly represent all viewpoints in Morocco. Again the French will have the real say in who dominates this "government."

Istiglal leaders of the left have declared they will not go along with the French reform unless Paris makes a clear statement of a perspective of eventual independence (within the French Union) for Morocco. This the French steadfastly refuse to do.

CHILI'S PRESIDENT IBANEZ agreed to negotiate a strike of 55,000 public service workers on Sept. 4. He had previously refused to meet with union leaders unless the strike was called off. On Sept. 1 leaders of the Chilean Labor Federation had threatened a general strike of its one million members for Sept. 5 in support of the public service workers. After Ibanez met with union officials, they called the public service strike off. However, the government did not actually grant any demands. It announced it would "study demands" for pay increases ranging from 60 to 100% to meet the run-away inflation. Only an estimated 30% of the workers returned to their jobs. The others stayed out, demanding release of the principal union leaders, who, they say were not consulted about calling the strike off. According to the Sept. 2 N. Y. Herald Tribune, the Ibanez government had arrested 30,000 strikers throughout Chili. Garrisons in Santiago, capital city, were increased by troops from the provinces. The capitalist press alibied for repressive moves by claiming the strikes were "Communist instigated."

PERON strengthened his regime in Argentina for the time being last week when 100,000 workers answered the call of the Peron-controlled General Confederation of Labor (CGT) to demonstrate in Buenos Aires against his resignation. Peron offered to "resign" on Aug. 31 in a letter addressed over the heads of Congress to the CGT, the Peronista Party and its woman's auxiliary. In his speech to the demonstration on Plaza del Mayo, the dictator called for a "fight to win to consolidate social conquests we have achieved or the oligarchy is going to destroy them." He urged the workers to answer the violence of his opponents with greater violence. The next day Congress voted Peron martial law powers within the Buenos Aires area. This brought an end to the truce between Peron and his opponents—the Catholic Church and Radical Party — concluded shortly after the abortive June 16 Navy coup.

YUGOSLAVIA will receive \$84 million in credits and loans over the next three years from the Soviet Union. In addition representatives of the two states agreed to conduct trade in the amount of \$70 million a year. Yugoslavia will send bauxite (aluminum ore), lead, tobacco and hemp. In return the Soviet Union will supply coke, oil and cotton. The Soviet government will lend Yugoslavia \$30 million in gold and credits amounting to \$54 million will be set up for the purchase of raw materials and the cost of building a nitrate

JAPAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER SHIGEMITSU came to the U.S. last week to report on the rearming plans of his government. These plans call for armed forces of 200,000 by 1958. The U.S. government wants a Japanese army of 350,000 by 1962. Shigemitsu also came to request a promise that U.S. ground troops be withdrawn from Japan in 1958. However, Secretary of State Dulles was non-committal. The Japanese working people are opposed to both rearmament and continued presence of U.S. troops in their country.

IN LONDON, trade unionists announced on Aug. 30 that they would boycott the Flying Tiger Air Line — a U.S. concern — until the line settled its pay dispute with the International Association of Machinists (IAM). The machinists have been on strike since June 15 in the U.S. to enforce pay demands. It is reported that workers in other countries of Europe have also demonstrated solidarity with the IAM strike.

TORONTO LABOR COUNCIL EXECUTIVES have endorsed the proposition of a 30-hour week with 40-hours pay according to Aug. 30 Labor's Daily. The council embraces 65,000 members of the CIO and Canadian Congress of Labor.

IN WEST GERMANY unions have cancelled contracts covering three to four million workers. New negotiations will begin this month throughout Germany. Union leaders contend that last year's wage increases have been cancelled by increase of prices. Recent wildcat strikes in Hamburg and Kassel involving 25,000 workers are said to have prompted union leaders to take the action.

THE INDIAN PARLIAMENT on Sept. 6 voted to back Prime Minister Nehru's stand banning peaceful invasions of the Portuguese colony of Goa, last foreign outpost in India. Nehru declared that individuals might use Gandhi's tactic of passive resistance against domestic authority, but governments could not use it against each other. He reaffirmed his determination to drive the Portuguese from Goa, but said it must be done by peaceful and legitimate means.

For only \$1.25 you can get a one-year subscription to the Marxist quarterly, Fourth International, 116 University Pl., New York 3, N. Y.

Subscribe!

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

Name _____

Street _____ Zone _____

City _____ State _____

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

The Negro Struggle

By George Lavan

Election Bait

As surely as the robin betokens the approach of spring, come-hither gestures and promises to the workers and the Negro people signal the approach of a presidential campaign.

The Chairman of the Democratic Party attacks Vice-President Nixon for having signed a restrictive covenant. The Republicans refuse "to dignify" this charge with a denial but they try to woo the Negro vote by other means.

An outstanding gesture of this type was the White House's announcement on Aug. 27 of a conference of 70 of the biggest defense contract holders and the top brass of the labor movement to discuss job discrimination. The one-day confab, to take place Oct. 25, will be conducted by the President's Committee on Job Discrimination, which is headed by Vice-President Nixon.

Now the Democrats and Republicans, unwilling to pass a Fair Employment Practices law, have tried to placate agitation for such a law with shadow rather than substance. This is a Presidential Order requiring everybody signing a government contract to agree not to practice Jim Crow in hiring, upgrading, lay-offs, etc. It reads fine and some six million holders of government contracts sign this pledge, even those in the Deep South.

The catch is that there is no enforcement power since, as the New York Times explains, the aim is to reduce Jim Crow "without punitive legal action."

At the recent NAACP convention in Atlantic City there was a great deal of discussion about squeezing some benefits

for the Negro people from this government contract clause. The NAACP is correctly trying to push the administration into making it something more than an "educational" measure. However, the discussion showed that it will take a lot of pushing to get any real benefits from it.

A delegate from Denver, for example, told how his branch had fought a case involving Jim Crow in connection with a government contract to carry the mails. The final ruling was that government mail contracts weren't really contracts so the clause didn't apply.

In the two and a half years this clause has existed not one company has had its government contract cancelled because it practiced Jim Crow hiring. NAACP and labor officials have been given contradictory information by the government on whether the President's Committee on Job Discrimination even has the power to cancel contracts. It has been said that though the committee has no power to cancel contracts, it has indicated it will refuse new contracts to violators. This remains to be seen.

The labor delegates who are to attend the one-day confab and then go to dinner at the White House should get up on their hind legs at this "educational" meeting and let Eisenhower and the assembled businessmen know that they want teeth put in this Presidential Order and they want "punitive legal action" against those companies that violate the contracts. Otherwise they will be aiding the politicians and Jim Crow bosses to cover-up for the refusal to put FEP into effect by law or Presidential Order.

"Cry of the Downtrodden"

By Trent Hutter

An outstanding German radical novelist died in Switzerland on March 14, 1955. It is certainly not too late to speak about Theodor Plievier who, in his novels, short stories and plays, conveyed to his readers, as he put it, "the cry of the downtrodden."

Plievier was born in Berlin, February 12, 1892. In his youth he wandered through Austria, Hungary, Holland and Russia, became a seaman (on sailing ships), a cowboy in South America, an interpreter, a miner, and served in the Imperial German Navy in World War I. He knew the workers, farmers and seamen of various countries, felt close to the oppressed anywhere, disapproved of chauvinism and imperialism. Plievier participated in the mutiny of the German Navy that started the revolution of November, 1918. His novel "The Kaiser's Coolies," which reflects his experiences in the Navy, was translated into 18 languages. Almost overnight, he had become a well-known writer.

Plievier realized that contrary to the Social Democrats' claims, the Weimar Republic with its bourgeois-democratic constitution, its officials and organs of repression taken over from the Kaiser's Empire, was not the result of a "victorious democratic revolution" but of the proletarian uprising's defeat. Basically, the state remained reactionary because of its capitalist nature, despite a few Social-Democratic cabinet members. Plievier stood unwaveringly in the proletarian camp. The title of his novel "The Kaiser Goes, The Generals Remain" became a political slogan in a time of increasing right-wing intrigue and terrorism.

When Hitler seized power in 1933, Plievier left Germany. Since his hopes were focused on the Soviet Union, in which he saw the state of the October Revolution, it is not surprising that he was in Moscow at the outbreak of World War II. In 1941, the Nazis invaded Russia. Plievier became an eyewitness of the Soviet people's heroic defense after an initial period of unpreparedness, bureaucratic chaos, uncertainty, setbacks, which he was later to describe in his novel "Moscow."

In 1944 he concluded "Stalingrad," one of the most remarkable World War II

novels, based on numerous eye-witness accounts, diaries, maps and documents of German soldiers and officers who participated in the decisive battle on the Volga. "Stalingrad" became an international best-seller after the war. It is part of a powerful trilogy on the Soviet Union's struggle of 1941-44: "Moscow" — "Stalingrad" — "Berlin," depicting significant events, situations, and types representing the various layers of the Soviet population and of the German war machine and people.

But Plievier's political thinking had undergone a profound change since his arrival in Moscow. He had seen the totalitarian police state of Stalin. He had seen the misery of the masses and the privileges and brutal arrogance of the bureaucracy. He had seen the latter's panic and incompetence in the first tragic weeks of the 1941 campaign. Plievier, the man whose heart was beating for the oppressed, for all the oppressed, had not been, could not be transformed into a Stalinist hack. He had to tell the truth. What good were his writings, despite all his professional skill, if he didn't? Sincerity plus skill makes a good writer; and an excellent writer he undoubtedly was!

"Moscow" is a pitiless expose of the bureaucratic regime, its crimes, its failures, and a tribute to the Russian people Plievier knew so well. The author had to hide the manuscript while he still lived under Stalinist rule. The only chance to get it published was his escape from the shadow of the MVD (secret police). Plievier had moved to East Germany after the war. He went to West Germany a few years later. There he finished and published "Moscow" and wrote "Berlin."

Theodor Plievier was not a Trotskyist. His political views seem to have been somewhat vague. But nonetheless this highly talented writer was always a true friend of the toilers, a spokesman for the "downtrodden," an enemy of all tyrants. He always insisted on the Brotherhood of man, even when the world was aflame with war. "The whole earth belongs entirely to all," says an old Russian in Plievier's "Moscow". . .

Notes from the News

PHILIP LOEB, 61, veteran stage, screen and television actor, was found dead in the Hotel Taft on Sept. 1 with a nearly empty bottle of sleeping pills at his side. Three years ago Loeb made headlines when he was dropped from the role of Jake (Papa) Goldberg on a TV series after "Red Channels" accused him of "association" with "Communist-front" organizations. He denied the charges before the Senate Internal Security subcommittee but was nevertheless blacklisted and has been unemployed during most of the last three years of his life.

CLARE BOOTH LUCE, U.S. Ambassador to Italy, is under fire for forcing the withdrawal of the film "Blackboard Jungle" from the Venice Film Festival Competition. Arthur Loew, president of Loew's International Corp., denounced the action as "flagrant political censorship" and lodged a protest with the State Department, the New York Post reported.

RIVAL SUGAR LOBBIES conducted a running battle in the last session of Congress. Domestic sugar producers coordinated their efforts with Puerto Rican and Hawaiian sugar interests

against the Cuban producers dominated by Wall Street stockholders, according to the Washington Star. Latin American countries also hired lobbies to try to break the grip of the Cuban interests. The lobbies got so tangled up that Congress adjourned without passing any sugar quota legislation, allotting shares of the sugar market to the various producers for the time being.

THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS UNION goes on trial September 30 before Federal Judge Frank Picard. The union was indicted by Attorney General Brownell for using its general funds to support political candidates in 1954. Judge Picard gained prominence when he ruled against the Mine Workers Union in the portal to portal pay case.

SENATE COMMITTEE STAFFS are now under investigation for "subversive" members. Representative Francis E. Walter, head of the House Un-American Activities Committee, claims that "cells" exist among Senate committee aides. So far there is no announcement of Senate plans to look for "red cells" in the staffs of House committees.

VOLUME XIX

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1955

NUMBER 37

Male Guards Beat Women Prisoners In Chicago Jail

By Shirley Clark

"I have come to the press and Judge Austin because there are 19 girls who desperately need medical attention after they were beaten up on two occasions yesterday by twelve male guards in the County Jail."

These were the opening words of Mrs. Ruth O'Neal, 36, in Chicago when she talked to reporters after conferring with Judge Austin and the State's Atty. Gutknecht on Aug. 31. Mrs. O'Neal was one of the prisoners in Chicago's County Jail who was beaten by the guards. She began her fight for medical help for the women prisoners the moment she was released from prison.

On Sunday, Aug. 28, one of the prisoners, Mrs. Mina Singer, 32, was caught talking through the open windows to male prisoners. As a result of this "crime," the windows were closed and other "privileges" were taken away from the women inmates.

On Tuesday, Aug. 30, the 48 women prisoners began to bang their tin cups, demanding to see Warden Blazek. They wanted the windows re-opened. They wanted to protest the fact that all were being punished for the infraction of a minor rule by one prisoner.

Instead of granting the modest demands of the women prisoners — or even permitting negotiations with the Warden — twelve male guards entered the common cell and began beating the women until "there were girls all over the floor."

The guards beat the women with closed fists. All clothing was torn off two or three women. After knocking the women down, the guards then dragged them to their individual cells.

Mrs. O'Neal said she stooped to help one of the women who was lying on the floor when a guard hit her across the back of the neck.

That night the women banged their shoes on the floors of their cells, demanding medical care for the injured women.

Strike Victory Ended 'Lockout'



Mrs. Esther Quigley (left), who locked out her shop steward husband because he was on strike, is shown taking direct action (below) in picketing the pickets. Andrew Quigley is one of the 450 members of UAW-CIO who were on strike against the Harrison Sheet Metal Co. in Chicago. Wives of the other UAW strikers picketed Mrs. Quigley. Labor's Daily, Sept. 1, reports the strikers won and Mrs. Quigley ended her lockout.



Warden Blazek, in the attempt to quiet the indignant prisoners, promised to take three injured women to see the doctor. Instead the three wounded women were locked in segregation cells in the basement.

In reply to the charges made by Mrs. O'Neal, Sheriff Lohman and Warden Blazek raised the cry of "politics." If this were so, the Sheriff and the Warden would have nothing to worry about. No counter charges would have to be made. The prison administration could be completely vindicated by simply opening the County Jail to thorough inspection by doctors and impartial observers.

The labor movement of Chicago, as elsewhere, can ill afford to neglect the fight against the outrageous conditions that exist in American prisons. The degree of oppression in any society can always be measured by the treatment accorded to those who are weakest. And who are more helpless than those men and women who are caught in the prison system of the United States.

Whenever prison brutality breaks through the wall of silence into the public view, the labor movement, as the champion of the oppressed, should step into the lead to see that justice is done. Without this intervention, there will be no real justice.

Steel Workers In Detroit Told To Quit Fighting

By A Detroit Steelworker

DETROIT, Sept. 1 — David J. McDonald, President of the CIO United Steelworkers has given another demonstration of his "co-trusteeship" program in a surprise trip here to convince the men at the Great Lakes Steel plant to co-operate with the bosses in maintaining production standards.

At a mass meeting held in the Ecorse High School, Aug. 31, 10,000 union members heard McDonald speak from the same platform with the top officers of the company and its parent corporation, National Steel.

McDonald appealed to the workers to put an end to the work stoppages that have taken place since last December over plant grievances and to cooperate in the lush profit making of the steel industry this year.

OPEN SHOP THREAT

During 1955 there have been 26 work stoppages in the plant. A year ago this plant, the largest in the Detroit area, witnessed a prolonged "wildcat" strike in which Steelworkers District Director Shane accused Ernest Weir, who had just acquired control of the Great Lakes plant of trying to introduce open shop conditions.

At that time the steel workers were hard hit by the economic recession; with thousands laid off the men in the plants were fighting for the very life of the union. Now, with the production boom, McDonald apparently feels bold enough to come out with his phony peace program in an effort to dampen the militant spirit of the workers.

From my own experience I can report that the steel union officials, down to the shop steward level, have made a complete turnabout and are going after the men on the McDonald program. Disciplinary actions, forcing overtime on the workers and cutting down relief periods are becoming daily occurrences.

The chief Steward in my plant, for example, has changed his

attitude during the last eight months. He is now more co-operative with the international officials and less responsive to the needs of the workers.

But if the attitude of the rank and file in the plant where I work is anything like the feeling at Great Lakes, then the workers there will continue to take initiative in resisting infringement on their rights.

It will take more than McDonald's speechmaking to convince steel workers that what's good for the steel bosses is good for them.

Anti-McDonald Candidate Backed By Lorain Local

The candidacy of Joseph P. Molony for vice-president of the Steelworkers Union was advanced when the 11,500 membership of Local 1104 in Lorain, Ohio, voted overwhelmingly to support him. This brings the largest local in the Steelworkers and the decisive force in the Cleveland area, into the anti-McDonald camp.

The faction fight within the Steelworkers Union broke out early in the year when President McDonald proposed Howard Hague as union vice-president following the death of James G. Timmes. The action was opposed by a strong minority of the Executive Board which backed Molony and it was decided to have Hague fill in until a special election would decide the issue.

The tightly-controlled, from-the-top-down organization, which characterized the regime under Phillip Murray, is now split. However the contest so far is simply a struggle for power with little difference in policy expressed by either caucus. Molony has carried on his fight under the banner of declaration of friendship for McDonald. McDonald forces on the other hand have made reference to "disciplinary" action.

BIG ISSUES BURIED

On the whole the union ranks have remained apathetic to the struggle. Very little has been said on basic problems facing the members, such as automation, speed-up and working conditions. While they have not entered into any vigorous campaigns, the rank and file favors democratic discussion of different tendencies as a good thing for the union.

McDonald's program of "co-trusteeship" with the employers (see article on this page) has tended to alienate the more militant members. Thus far Molony has had support from his own New York state district, the Youngstown District and the Cleveland District. The special election will take place Oct. 25.

How It's Done

The speculators, who built the 2,113-unit Shirley-Duke Apartments in Alexandria, Va., with Federal Housing funds, made profits of almost \$1,800,000, or \$313 for each dollar of "free enterprise" capital they put up.

Three Specials

By Colvin R. de Silva:
THEIR POLITICS AND OURS — Stalinism and Trotskyism in Action in Ceylon, 50 pp., \$25.

By Rosa Luxemburg:
REFORM OR REVOLUTION, 75 pp., \$50.

WHAT IS ECONOMICS?
(A mimeographed translation of Chapter 1 of Rosa Luxemburg's "Introduction to Economics.")

Order from
PIONEER PUBLISHERS
116 University Place
New York 3, N. Y.

Our Readers Take the Floor

Serfdom in South

Editor:

Am enclosing a clipping of a few days ago, dealing with the matter of interest to you. From the nature of the disputes, it is easy to deduce the underlying truths.

Lately, I have tried to get an earful upon the matter of organized labor and how well it is loved here. Naturally, every employer here is anti-union of any sort. What struck me strongly is how right I was at guessing the underlying feeling on the part of the workers in the agricultural pursuits here. I find it quite impossible to get any of the day laborers to express themselves about workers and their deserts. They will not talk about it at all.

The reason is obvious to me. For many of these workers are tied down here because of their poverty. They can not pick up and go elsewhere if they lose their jobs here. They are as much tied to the big employer as any slave ever was. For such a man to let it ever be heard that he is dissatisfied with the dole given him, amounts to going without his corn grits and lard forever. These serfs dare not even be seen talking to anyone who is known to be sympathetic to the underdog, for they would be guilty by association thusly.

What I am here trying to impress upon you is that one must be very careful here not ever to let his sympathies come out onto his sleeve. That even goes for me now, despite the fact that I am quite independent so far as employment is concerned. One who expresses his sympathy toward the downtrodden may expect to have his house burned down over his head.

The winter growing season has just started here now. Everyone is busy, including children that should be in school. A boy was operating a power mower yesterday, and a man pointed out to me that unless he did so labor, his mother and brothers would not eat.

There is not much difference here between these agricultural laborers and peonage. Of course, they are free to leave at any time, move out of their shacks and go to another place just like it. But even there in their

new location, they will be required to give evidence that they never considered themselves as getting a raw deal at the place whence they just fled.

Yesterday, I saw a long row of boxes called houses where these workers live. The set-up reminds one of mass production of fryers for market. Also of Hardy's description of the conditions (Name withheld) Florida

[The writer of the above letter encloses a clipping from the Tampa Tribune about the strike against the International Minerals and Chemical Co. This company has five phosphate mines and plants in the area. The strike began in June when 1,200 members of the AFL Chemical Workers Union demanded an eight-cent an hour increase and a new contract which other chemical companies have accepted. On Aug. 8 the company tried to reopen its processing plants with strikebreakers. Although picketing at the company gates was peaceful, a "right-to-work" injunction was granted by a local judge on the basis of alleged violence on roads leading to the plant. A car containing newspaper reporters was overturned by persons unknown. Although the union pointed to the advantage the company derived from this incident, the judge simply assumed strikers were responsible and granted the anti-labor injunction. On Aug. 28 a dynamite explosion occurred in the control room of one of the struck plants. Although the union immediately offered a \$1,500 reward with no strings attached for solution of the explosion, the injunction-happy judge immediately had hauled before him H. A. Houston, president of Chemical Workers Local 35, on contempt charges. — Ed.]

So I was disappointed and even disgusted, because The Militant did not support Japan in her efforts to free the people of Asia, and did not advise the Negroes to support this struggle, but advised them to unite with the white workers instead.

Of course I knew that Japan was capitalist and imperialist, but I figured this way: If we are going to have capitalism and imperialism, then why should all the capitalist and imperialist nations be white nations? Wouldn't it be better for all the colored peoples, even the American Negroes, if there was ONE great imperialist power that WASN'T white? And wouldn't a Japanese victory in Asia inspire the people of Africa to revolt against their white masters? And wouldn't it inspire the Negroes in the South to struggle for better conditions?

And wouldn't the people of Asia be happier under the Japanese rulers, who wouldn't abuse them because of the colors of their skins?

I heard people say that the Japanese rulers had done terrible things in China, but I didn't believe it. I thought it was a lie of the white imperialists who wanted to rule China themselves.

I don't have to tell you how I felt about the fire-bombings and atom-bombings of the Japanese cities. You can guess for yourself! Then it made my blood boil when the Japanese leaders were executed by the white conquerors; I felt that they were condemned to die because they had

Detroit Debate

Is the Soviet Union A Socialist Country?

"Yes," says Marty Mitchnick (Review of the Month Forum)

"No," says George Breitman (Socialist Workers Party)

Friday, Sept. 23, at 8 P. M. at 3737 Woodward