

# Turnout Shows Negroes Ready for Action

By George Lavan

WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 29 — The massiveness — a quarter of a million people is the best estimate — was the outstanding feature of yesterday's March for Jobs and Freedom. This was also the most important thing about the march. For both friend and foe were carefully watching to see in what numbers Negroes would come out. To the politicians, the top union brass, the liberals, the fence-sitters and to the white supremacists — indeed to all social and political realists, the march's size would be a gauge of whether the Freedom Now fight was still in its upsurge or beginning to subside.

The Negro people were watching it very closely themselves and were exhilarated by the record-breaking turnout. It was also a source of great encouragement to those whites who are dependable allies of the Negroes, and who constituted about ten per cent of the marchers.

The march dramatized the readiness of the Negro masses to struggle, to go all the way in the fight. It also pointed up what the Negro people could do if they had leaders of the same mettle.

But nothing said or done by the top leaders at the

march was new or pointed new roads to the audience. And when the top leaders went afterwards to serve the march's demands on President Kennedy the meeting was reportedly "jovial" and nothing tangible resulted. So polite was this tea party that Kennedy was permitted, without being contradicted, to cite the gigantic protest as a display of Negro "faith and confidence in our democratic form of government."

At the march itself, a large section — possibly half — of the audience soon gave up listening to the speeches. Tens of thousands left the Lincoln Memorial area; others went beyond range of the loudspeakers to stroll around, picnic under the trees or to nap; still others simply disregarded the loudspeakers and carried on their own conversations in small groups.

A moment of general attention came when Martin Luther King was introduced and given a great ovation. Another dramatic moment was the reading of the speech of CORE National Director James Farmer, who is still in jail in Donaldville, Louisiana.

A brief speech by Chairman John Lewis of the Student Nonviolent Co-ordinating Committee was interrupted by applause a number of times because of its militant tone. He began:

"We march today for jobs and freedom, but we have

nothing to be proud of. Remember there are thousands in the South who can't be here because they are working for starvation wages . . .

"We support the administration's civil-rights bill but we support it with grave misgivings. This bill will not protect the citizens of Danville from police-state rule.

"We can't vote for the party of Eastland or the party of Goldwater. When will we have a party of our own?"

What the audience did not know was that behind the scenes Lewis had been forced by tremendous pressure to tone the speech down drastically.

It soon leaked out that Catholic Archbishop O'Boyle, who was scheduled to deliver the invocation, was so angered by the advance text of the speech (already distributed to the press) that he threatened to walk out on the ceremonies unless it was revised or censored. UAW President Walter Reuther and March Director A. Philip Randolph then forced the SNCC chairman to revise his speech. His speaking time was also cut down, as was that of some others, to just a few minutes.

This incident speaks volumes about the old-guard leadership of the civil-rights movement. Next week we shall print the full text of John Lewis' original speech.

## THE MILITANT

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### Diem Opens Reign of Terror Against Buddhists, Youth

By Steve Graham

The despotic Ngo Dinh Diem family clique which runs South Vietnam has launched an all-out drive to smash the Buddhist protest movement which has grown in size and militancy since May 8 when Diem's troops massacred Buddhist demonstrators.

Martial law was declared Aug. 21 throughout South Vietnam and a curfew ordered with violators to be shot on sight. Diem's police and troops arrested or killed every leading Buddhist they could get hold of and seized every major Buddhist temple in the country.

The total number arrested was estimated in the thousands. Mass arrests of "oppositionists and dissidents" besides Buddhists were also reported. Government press and radio launched violent attacks, charging the Buddhists with "subversive acts" and announced the top leaders would be court-martialed.

But the undisguised and savage effort to behead and smash an opposition which obviously has popular support tends to place the Diem regime, as well as its chief supporter, Kennedy, in an increasingly discredited and isolated position, both in Vietnam and internationally.

The anti-Buddhist drive was opened before dawn Aug. 21 when troops and police, firing pistols and tear-gas grenades, smashed into the Buddhist headquarters, Xa Loi pagoda in Saigon. They carried off several hundred priests and nuns, including most of the top leadership of the nation's Buddhists. Trucks took them to prison camps. Several were killed and many wounded in the raid. Similar raids were launched in the cities of Hue, Quangtin, Quangnam, Danang and Nhatrang, where the Buddhist movement is strongest.

These attacks followed an obviously well-made plan, such as the Buddhists had claimed months earlier was being prepared by the government. The operation was led by Col. Le Quang Tung, head of Vietnam's Special Forces, units trained by and closely associated

with the U.S. military mission. Le is one of the closest confidants of President Diem and Diem's brother Nhu, who is considered the real power behind the throne.

The move apparently had the three-fold aim of crushing the Buddhists, heading off a possible U.S.-sponsored military coup, and confronting the new U.S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge with an accomplished fact. Lodge was coming, presumably, with intentions to pressure Diem into conciliating the Buddhists.

The raid on the main pagoda in (Continued on Page 3)

## Manifesto Issued in Capital For Freedom Now Party

By Leslie Evans

WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 28 — A call was issued here today for formation of a nation-wide, all-Negro Freedom Now Party which would run its first candidates in the 1964 elections.

Using the March on Washington as a launching pad for the new party, its organizers issued a stirring Declaration of Washington proclaiming the movement's aims and possibilities. (See full text below. Simultaneously there was a distribution of leaflets calling for support in formation of the Freedom Now Party to the huge throngs of civil-rights demonstrators pouring into the capital.

Word that a call for a Negro party would be issued at the March on Washington leaked out a few days before and caused considerable stir. On Aug. 24 the *New York Times* carried a front-page story that such a call was going to be distributed to the marchers in Washington and added that on the same day "leaflets will also be distributed in Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, San



William Worthy

Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Seattle and other cities with large Negro populations."

The *Times* also reported that a tentative national committee of the projected Freedom Now Party, under the acting chairmanship of civil-rights attorney Conrad Lynn,

had opened an office at 81 East 125 St., in the heart of New York's Harlem.

The article reported Conrad Lynn as saying that he "had been in correspondence with many Negroes, active in civil-rights organizations who had indicated a strong receptivity to the idea of organizing a Negro Party."

In addition to the Declaration of Washington, a brochure has been released entitled "A Call For a Freedom Now Party." It asks, "What sense does it make to go on supporting the party of Eugene (Bull) Connor? Bull Connor is still Kennedy's Democratic National Committeeman from Alabama.

"Why should Southern Negroes register to vote — at the risk of death — when the only 'choice' on the ballot is a James O. Eastland or a George C. Wallace?"

"When have the Republicans or Democrats ever used long existing Federal laws to protect us from daily, coast-to-coast police brutality?"

"Our African brothers have shown us how to win freedom. Their principal technique: All-black political action. This is self-reliance, not 'racism.'"

"The times are with us," the brochure says. "A Freedom Now Party will for the first time unite us. We will be the permanent party of change and challenge. We will take the issues to the streets."

Lynn said the idea for an all-Negro party developed from a suggestion made by William Worthy, well-known Negro correspondent for the Baltimore *Afro*— (Continued on Page 2)

## Declaration of Washington

Text of Manifesto

One hundred years after Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, we American Negroes are resolved to end all political dependence upon the political parties upholding segregation and to take our destiny in our own hands.

Our way to freedom and equality is through all-black political action. Our way to unity is through the creation of a Freedom Now Party.

What can a national all-Negro political party expect to achieve?

It will concentrate the voting power of black Americans in a single organization that can deliver knock-out punches to the enemies of equality.

It can put genuine representatives, responsible to the Negro people, in office all the way from local communities to Washington.

Unchained to vested interests, the Freedom Now Party can promote basic economic changes that will give everyone adequate employment, housing and education. It can carry forward the struggle for jobs and justice, not only at election times but all the year round.

It can win at least a million votes in 1964.

It will certify that the Negro has come of age. If our African brothers can win independence, freedom and self-government, why cannot we American Negroes assert similar capacities for political action and achievement? Moreover, the new party will be the natural voice of fraternity with the oppressed of Africa, Asia and Latin America who are also striving to end racism, exploitation and colonialism.

One hundred years of waiting for Democratic and Republican politicians to correct our grievances is too long. We have to take our freedom; no one will hand it to us.

Appeal to Youth

That is why, in the nation's capital, on this occasion of the greatest civil-rights demonstration in American history, we call upon all who believe in true emancipation to join us in forming and building the Freedom Now Party. We appeal especially to those courageous young Negroes in the South and in the city ghettos who are teaching their elders the meaning of today's fight for freedom.

This Party has been initiated by

Negroes. All of its candidates will be black. But we are not anti-white. Our banner is not "racism" but self-reliance. We are the political expression of the mighty black crusade for freedom that nobody can now halt or suppress.

Today the Negro is at the bottom of the power structure. As he rises, he cannot help but lift the status of very other fellow-American who suffers from existing evils. In the name of 20 million black Americans, we aspire to transform the United States into a happier, freer, more democratic country that the rest of the world will admire and not despise or fear.

The first step will be the founding of our Party. We call on all Negroes or their representatives to join in a historic founding congress and to build the Party in every possible way.

The Freedom Now Party is the next indispensable step. United in our own Party, militant in our action, uncompromising in our principles —

We Shall Overcome.

A MILLION VOTES FOR FREEDOM NOW!



Conrad Lynn

Sidelights of Capital March

'Leaders Must Run to Catch Up'

Marchers began forming at the Washington Monument before dawn and caused consternation in official quarters when they began marching to the Lincoln Memorial at 11:15 a.m. — 15 minutes ahead of schedule and before the march leaders had arrived.



DIANE NASH BEVEL, who played a key role in the 1962 Freedom Rides, was among the women singled out for special tribute at the Washington March for their great contributions to the freedom struggle.

Members of the Student Non-violent Co-ordinating Committee (which one correspondent has described as "The Kamikaze squad" of the civil-rights movement) were identified by their blue jeans, which are becoming the uniform of Southern rights fighters.

The march drew the usual number of professional hucksters including one who was doing a slow business with American flags. One teen-age girl turned him down with this comment: "When I get to be an American I'll buy one."

There was appreciative applause when Roy Wilkins paid tribute to the late Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, founding president of the NAACP. Wilkins urged those present to read Du Bois' classic work, Souls of Black Folk.

Roy Wilkins said he would be surprised if more than 10,000 of D.C.'s 400,000 Negroes turned out for the march. Some people thought that the wish was the father to the thought and that the NAACP head was concerned that a mass turnout from the black ghetto of the nation's capital might detract from the "respectability" of the demonstration.

Comedian Dick Gregory, who chose jail in Birmingham and Chicago civil-rights battles got a big hand when he told the crowd that he was glad to be out but he had gotten confused by having more people ask for his fingerprints than for his autograph.

Members of the Militant army were both pleased and frustrated. They were pleased because they sold out 7,500 copies of the "Freedom Now Party" issue of the paper before the march was half

over and frustrated because they could have sold several thousand more if they had them. One enterprising saleswoman from New York decided not to expend her energies on selling single copies. Instead she sold 66 introductory subscriptions to the paper.

It was very moving when A. Philip Randolph paid tribute to the women who have played a heroic role in the civil rights revolution. He singled out Mrs. Daisy Bates of Little Rock; Mrs. Rosa Parks of Montgomery, Ala., who touched off the historic bus boycott there by refusing to move to the back; Mrs. Herbert Lee, whose husband was shot in cold blood by a Mississippi racist for supporting the voter-registration drive; Diane Nash Bevel, a courageous young Deep South rights fighter; and Mrs. Gloria Richardson, the unflinching leader of the embattled Cambridge, Md., movement, which is affiliated to SNCC.

Harold Reape, one of the defendants in the Monroe "kidnap" case was there with a placard declaring: "I face life imprisonment in Monroe, N.C., for fighting racism."

One demonstrator carried a venetian blind on a pole. On each slat was a stanza of a poem dedicated to the memory of the murdered Mississippi NAACP field secretary Medgar Evers. One stanza read: "Old Glory's tarnished with his blood / For having shabbily allowed / A noble son to be duntrod / Because he was both black and proud."

Despite shameful refusal of the AFL-CIO Council to endorse the march a good number of unions were represented. Some of those identified by banners were: The Steelworkers, United Auto Workers, National Maritime Union, International Ladies Garment Workers Union, International Union of Electrical Workers, District 50 of the United Mine Workers; Local 1199 and District 65 of the Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Union, and Amalgamated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen Union.

The hundreds of colored MP's assigned to help patrol the march area were not impervious to the spirit of the occasion. Several times many of them forgot they were on duty for the army and joined in the applause when a speaker made a good point.

Robert N. Shelton, grand imperial wizard of the Alabama Ku Klux Klan was due to arrive in

Washington the day of the march but fell short. His private plane crashed in Alabama and the grand wizard and a friend were hospitalized. His 350-pound pilot died from the crash.

A group of supporters of the magazine The Liberator, led by editor Daniel Watts, came down in their own bus. They marched with "unauthorized" placards, some of which read: "Black Party, Yes; Democratic Party, No.; Republican Party, No." "Freedom Now or 'The Fire Next Time'." "Don't Talk Freedom, Act Freedom!" Members of the group said there was a good reaction to their slogans. Some young whites who disagreed with the idea of an all-black party engaged them in debate during the afternoon with most of those listening in indicating sympathy for the Liberator viewpoint.

A nine-year-old D.C. boy said he had seen parades before but never marched in one. Asked if this one was like those he had seen he replied: "This one's not going to be funny."

Locked-out ILGWU workers from Philadelphia got good national publicity for their "Don't buy Judy Bond blouses" campaign by giving shopping bags with that slogan on them to the Philadelphia contingent.

A Washington Daily News correspondent aboard the Freedom Train that brought a thousand demonstrators from the Deep South reported that several thousand people turned out in Charleston, S.C., to send off their local contingent. One teen-age girl on the train shouted jubilantly: "White folks, it's all over. In '63 we shall be free."

The Un-American Activities Committee of the Louisiana Department of the American Legion adopted a resolution demanding that President Kennedy use his official powers to call off the march. Meanwhile the Young Republicans of Georgia issued a statement expressing concern that the march would give the civil-rights movement "an un-American image." The group contended that "street demonstrations are unwise."

...New Party

(Continued from Page 1) American, at a June 1 street rally in Harlem. Copies of the brochure are available from the National Committee for a Freedom Now Party, whose offices are at 81 East 125 St., Suite 207, New York, N.Y. 10035. Telephone 212 MO 2-0618. The brochures are listed at 15 cents for five copies; 50 cents for 20 copies. They also list Freedom Now Party buttons at 25 cents each.

CLEVELAND, Aug. 25 — A local group here today hailed the announcement this week of a group of New York Negroes that they plan to call for the formation of an all-Negro FREEDOM NOW PARTY to enter the national elections in 1964.

The Cleveland group, headed by Acting Chairman Don L. Sharp, launched the Ohio Committee for a Freedom Now Party with a city-wide distribution of a brochure issued by the national committee outlining the aims of the proposed new party.

More information may be obtained from the Ohio Committee for a Freedom Now Party, P.O. Box 3829, Collinwood Station, Cleveland, Ohio, Don L. Sharp, Acting Chairman.



Most bosses just aren't happy unless there's sweat pouring off the workers. That's the case at the Lombard Company Equipment and Supplies Inc., in North Linthicum, Maryland, closed by a strike of the United Steel Workers (AFL-CIO), last June 25.

Three weeks later, the company cut down some wild cherry trees in front of the plant. It claimed the strikers were using the trees to hide behind as they threw rocks at scabs.

The strikers declared that the trees were destroyed because their cool shade gave aid and comfort to the picketline. In an indignant protest to the Department of Forests and Parks, they charged that the company had despoiled the public right-of-way. State officials, however, upheld the company.

Latest reports reveal that the company's attempt to make the strikers "sweat it out" have proved a dismal failure. Pickets are now showing up for strike duty carrying big umbrellas which help keep both the company and the hot Maryland sun off their backs.

A field worker for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) reported the successful end of a one-day strike of women car washers in Atlanta, Ga., on Aug. 14.

Judy Walborn, a SNCC worker who has been active in desegregation campaigns and a community improvement project with the Committee On Appeal For Human Rights — the local student sit-in-group, said that women workers at the Atlanta Car Wash went on strike for higher pay and better working conditions.

After a half-day of picketing, the workers met with management and signed an agreement.

62,000 telephones have been put out of service in the Sarasota, Florida, area as the result of cut cables and other damage to installations of the General Telephone Company.

Local 824 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) is on strike against the company but denies any responsibility for the above damages. The local said there is a possibility that it is caused by union sympathizers. In the meantime, circulars have been sent to union members asking their cooperation in bringing order to the strike.

A report in U.S. News and World Report quotes the company as saying it could "maintain service to all its subscribers without difficulty" if it were not for the damage. General Telephone is using supervisory personnel as scabs during the strike.

In Houston, Texas, Teamsters Local 968 has accused the Lone Star Co., a liquor wholesaler, and Truth Verification, Inc., a polygraph [lie detector] testing firm of fabricating pretexts for discharging workers during a union organizing campaign. The Teamsters said that Lone Star employees were given "lie-detector" tests the same day the company was provided with names of 18 out of 28 drivers and warehousemen who had joined the union. The company fired nine union men as "security risks" on the pretext that they failed to pass the tests. Two other workers and a supervisor were also fired for failure to combat the union during the organizing drive.

The August International Teamster exposed this and other examples of the growing use of "lie-detector" tests to victimize unionists. It said there are an estimated 500 polygraph companies in major

U.S. cities who "cater to employers."

Two pickets were attacked by four goons armed with beer bottles in front of the Ford Motor Company stamping plant in Chicago Heights, Ill., Aug. 18. One suffered a broken nose and the other was beaten and had his life threatened. The two are members of UAW Local 588, which closed down the plant following refusal of the company to settle 74 workers' grievances charging violation of health-and-safety conditions on the job.

This is the second strike by the 3,700 member Local since last May when workers walked off the job because of more than 200 similar company violations. At that time, International union officials declared the strike "illegal and unauthorized," and UAW President Walter Reuther urged the strikers to return to work. On top of this, the company succeeded in getting a court injunction which ended that nine day walkout.

When eleven unions representing 500,000 off-ffain workers recently asked for a 29¢-an-hour raise, plus fringe benefits, railroad companies charged them with "featherbedding" and said many of their jobs were going to be eliminated. Thus the railroads have extended their job-slashing attack from the operating trainmen (engineers, firemen, etc.) to the non-operating crafts. These include such workers as repairmen, clerks and telegraphers.

George Leighty, chairman of the Railroad Labor Executives Association, and chief non-op negotiator replied: "Just let the railroads try to pass off their trumped-up featherbedding propaganda on us. If it's a fight they want, they're coming to the right people."

Unemployment in Harlem has hit the "depression" level of 13% of the work force, according to L. Joseph Overton, executive director of the Harlem-based Negro Labor Committee. He says the yearly income for the area's Negro families runs about \$2,000 below the average for Manhattan's white families.



To Speak in Minneapolis

Joseph Johnson, Twin Cities organizer of the Socialist Workers Party, will answer recent smears by the Minnesota Baptist Convention and the House Un-American Activities Committee against the SWP. The meeting, which is being held to refute the attack made against Johnson and the SWP in the Minneapolis Tribune, will be chaired by V.R. Dunne, SWP State Chairman.

This public meeting will be held at 704 Hennepin Ave., Hall 240, on Friday, Sept. 13 at 8:30 p.m. There will be a question period and all are invited.

Weekly Calendar

CHICAGO

A Panel of Freedom Now Fighters: "We Marched on Washington — Now What?" A symposium on results of the March on Washington and the next steps for equality. Fri., Sept. 6, 8 p.m. at Debs Hall 210, 302 S. Canal St. Ausp. Friday Night Socialist Forum.

LOS ANGELES

Theodore Edwards of the Socialist Workers Party presents a Marxist view of the news in his bi-weekly commentary, Fri., Sept. 6, 6:45 p.m. KPDK-FM, 90.7 on your dial.

NEW YORK

Clifton DeBerry, SWP candidate for Brooklyn councilman-at-large, and participant in the March on Washington, to speak on The March on Washington — What Next? Fri., Sept. 6, 8:30 p.m. at Adelphi Hall, 74 Fifth Ave. (near 13th St.). Contrib. \$1. Ausp. Militant Labor Forum.

**CUBA: Report by a Canadian Journalist****How Women of Havana Are Faring Under Revolution**

[This spring Jack Scott, widely-read daily columnist of the *Sun* in Vancouver, Canada, made a second visit to Cuba and wrote eight articles describing what he saw there. After a lengthy Latin American tour the year before, he had written some of the finest articles on South America and Cuba yet to appear in the North American press. His recent series shows that his perspicacity, candor, wit and sympathy for the Cuban Revolution have in no way diminished. We are reprinting the major part of his recent series. Space limitation does not allow us to print it in full.]

By Jack Scott

HAVANA — Four attractive matrons, each of them down to her last precious girdle, took me shopping in Havana and then threw a little neighborhood, all-girl coffee party for me.

So what we have today are some random notes on what the revolution has done for and to the ladies.

I mention the girdles right off the bat because it's a problem very close to women's . . . well, it's a big problem.

There are still girdles available for the petite figure, which doesn't necessarily require them. Trouble is, there aren't too many petite figures in Cuba. Women here have — how'll I put it? — well, they have splendid, generous, superlative derrieres (the next generation's will likely be less impressive because of the increased protein content in the kid's diets).

The prevailing fashion is extremely, one might almost say "sensationally," form-fitting from waist to knees.

Early in the revolution, it seems, the ladies tried to modify the style, but there were complaints from so many men, even in the form of irate letters-to-the-editor, that the girls relented. Cuban girls relent easier and with more femininity, it appears, than North American girls.

The difficulty is that the supply of elastic, which had originated entirely in the USA, is perilously short and that there've been some problems adapting new parts for the wearying American-made machines.

It has taken all the ingenuity and mend-and-make-do talents for which womankind is renowned to keep the Cuban ladies cinched in and, quite clearly, many have just said a delightful hell with it.

Curiously, the spectacular behinds of girls in the volunteer militia, which I had commented on rather breathlessly last year, are not as much in evidence this year.

**Guard Duty**

Two of my hostesses happened to be in this service — they put in guard duty four hours a week, carrying rifles — and were able to explain the change. Seems that in the early days the khaki pants issued to the ladies were actually men's trousers and, of course, the girls hurried right home or to their nearest dressmakers' to have

them altered to their specific dimensions.

Clothing, itself, though many items are rationed, isn't too much of a problem. Dresses aren't on the ration list. There's a fair variety in the stores, particularly in cool cottons priced from \$16 but also a good selection of semi-formal or cocktail dresses in heavier fabrics coming off the looms at record rates from the round-the-clock Cuban textile mills.

**Fashion Parade**

One of the startling sights of this revolutionary country is to see the regular Havana fashion parade of Sundays when the better-dressed ladies are fond of accompanying their escorts on an elegant saunter about the lobbies of the larger hotels. You never saw such a procession of beautiful bumble-bees.

Rationing is strictly governed by supply-and-demand (a man now must have a ration chit for a pair of trousers, but can buy as many suits as he can afford, many made from cloth imported from China, priced between \$40 and \$75) and those things that remain on the ration list for women are usually in good supply.

At the moment the gals are allowed a monthly quota of two pairs of rayon pants, two brasieres, two slips and two pairs of nylon stockings. These are utility items, without nearly enough lace on the undergarments to keep the Cuban women altogether happy, but many more expensive, unrationed items, such as imported Chinese silk nightgowns, are available.

Shoes are a little tougher to come by, mainly because so much leather goes into militia boots. Both men and women are limited at the moment to two pairs a year, usually priced at around \$7 and of good quality, but not the high style that the ladies would like.

The revolution's leaders, either consciously seeking the support of the women or because of the natural gallantry with which Cuban men treat a lady, have given high priority to the manufacture of cosmetics.

Some vegetable oils which might otherwise have gone on the rather bare shelves of the grocery stores have been diverted for the production of those various creams and lotions so necessary to keep a woman's morale high.

Cuban-made lipstick comes in a variety of shades, the most popular of which is Mango, there's a variety of eye make-up and nail polishes from Czechoslovakia and China and many brand-name perfumes which are priced at cost.

What happened here was that the Havana branches of Worth, Lanvin, Arpege and others were taken over by the government, formulae and all. There is also some sporadic production of cosmetics under familiar American names such as Revlon, Max Factor and Avon and a deodorant by the name of Veto.

**'Blond' Cigarets**

There is even a mild, filter-tip cigarette especially manufactured for the ladies, called Aroma and made with what's known here as "blond" tobacco, considerably easier on the throat than the black, cigarillo-type smokes that North American visitors quickly learn to loathe.

The supply of peroxide and hair tints for home use appears to fluctuate in both quantity and quality, often a problem for the considerable numbers of women who, having the most luxurious, raven tresses in the world, are feminine enough to want them any other color.

Agnes Afon one of the most popular interpreters in the pool that's available for visiting correspondents, a 21-year-old beauty



STREET SCENE IN HAVANA

**...Terror in South Vietnam**

(Continued from Page 1)

the cultural and religious center of Hué was exceptionally bloody. The government claimed that Buddhists resisted with stones and sharpened sticks.

There was much shooting by the police, followed by a loud explosion. The pagoda was said to be virtually destroyed and a giant statue of Buddha demolished. Some 100 defenders were reported killed or wounded.

The protest movement has been particularly strong in Hué. It was there on May 8 that government troops fired on peaceful demonstrators, killing at least seven children and a woman. Hué is also the seat of Catholic Archbishop Ngo Dinh Thuc, brother of Diem. Ngo Dinh Can, another brother, is civil ruler of the region.

When news of the Aug. 21 attack spread, thousands of Hué residents rioted, fighting barehanded against armed police. Leading deans of faculty and professors at the University of Hué were arrested. They were among some 40 faculty members who had resigned their posts shortly before the savage crackdown on Buddhists came. The resignations followed three self-immolations in one week and the government firing of the rector of the university who sympathized with the Buddhists.

The Hué professors, vowing not to return until Buddhist grievances were redressed, had appealed to the nation's intellectuals to follow suit. Students at Hué supported the professors. In Saigon students held anti-government rallies and some boycotted classes. As a result, Saigon university and all secondary schools were closed down. Diem's foreign minister resigned, announcing he would become a Buddhist monk, and urged the students to fight for their rights. Thousands of students and several professors were reported arrested.

There were reports of mass defections among troops of the Vietnam army's Second Corps over the attacks on Buddhists. At Seventh

Division headquarters, south of Saigon, Catholic and Buddhist troops were said to have clashed, with 60 dead and 120 wounded. Such developments, especially near the strongest base of peasant guerrillas south of Saigon, could spell the rapid downfall of the Diem regime.

Adverse international reaction to the Diem regime's reign of terror against the Buddhists is putting more and more heat on Washington. The United Nations delegate from Ceylon is seeking a special session of the UN General Assembly to take up the question. He has stated that he looks to the U.S. "from which South Vietnam draws all its strength and sustenance" to correct the situation. The prime minister of Ceylon has proposed a conference of Buddhist nations regarding the anti-Buddhist policy of the South Vietnamese government.

Hawaiian Buddhists have protested against the "Dictator-President" Diem. And a committee of prominent U.S. religious figures, including Reinhold Niebuhr, announced the support of 15,000 clergymen. The committee has protested U.S. aid to a government that persecutes its people and denies religious rights.

But there was little real likelihood the Kennedy administration would withdraw support and end military aid to Diem. The *New York Times* commented Aug. 25: "Washington is haunted by the specter of a possible dissolution of all authority in South Vietnam which would put the country up for grabs by the Communists."

Kennedy himself in a recent press conference said: "For us to withdraw . . . would mean a collapse not only of South Vietnam but Southeast Asia. So we are going to stay there."

This, coupled with reports that U.S. officials knew in advance of the current crackdown on Buddhists, indicated ominously that Kennedy will go to any lengths rather than take the U.S. troops out of South Vietnam.

known far and wide simply as "Baby" (she was 17 when she served as a pistol-packing courier between Castro's forces in the Sierra Madre and Havana) apparently got an inferior batch of peroxide the other day and came to work with her Shirley MacLaine hair-do in brilliant shades of blue and green, which she carried off, I thought, with magnificent aplomb.

**Beauty Parlors**

Most working gals or working wives which seems to be most of the women in Havana, now have this sort of thing done at their neighborhood beauty parlors, many of them operated as state institutions. A subsidized "perm" runs around \$5, haircut is 80c, manicure 60c and the gossip is free.

There must be thousands of women throughout Cuba who had never been in a beauty parlor in their lives who now make a once-a-week visit as a matter of routine.

Because of the large numbers of working women, and the shortage of washing machines, Castro's busy planners have established laundromats throughout Cuba (34 of them in Havana) where milady can do her own wash or have it done for nine cents a pound. There's talk of setting up similar establishments for dry cleaning.

One of the major items of building in the past year has been the construction of day nurseries, beautiful, bright buildings where the working mother may leave her child with qualified nurses. There's quite a debate about this in Cuba, just as there was in Israel during the early days of the *kibbutzim*, but it is rapidly becoming accepted by the young mothers, many of whom wouldn't go back willingly to their purely housewife role, Castro or not.

These four particular young women certainly have none of the problems of boredom or restricted interests that afflict so many North American women.

One is studying English, another

Russian, in anticipation of joining her husband this autumn on a fly-now-pay-later tour of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Russia. Travel to the continental Socialist countries or to China is one of the few things that can be bought here on credit. A package holiday usually runs around \$1,000 with a down payment of \$100 and the rest spread over two or three years.

Apart from the two who are serving in the volunteer militia and who have had three months training in camp, all four of my hostesses are active in the block "defense" committees, mostly composed of women, which issue ration books and conduct other local functions.

All four of these women wholeheartedly support the revolution, two of them being downright fierce about it, since Fidel Castro has given them what money couldn't buy in earlier days, the full dignity of equality now accorded the Negro.

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# THE MILITANT

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## The Students Return from Cuba

The students who defied the State Department's ban on travel to Cuba have returned to this country after encountering some difficulties in finding a flight for the "90 miles back" — difficulties which they attribute to State Department pressures.

Their trip has effectively dramatized the Kennedy administration's restrictions on freedom of travel to Cuba, which the public at large was often unaware of. Their return promises to keep the issue in the news.

In a statement made July 29, the 58 students declared:

"All of us are now more convinced than when we originally left the United States of the absurdity of our State Department's public notices attempting to limit travel to those countries it considers 'safe.' Our trip to Cuba has shown daily that American citizens are as safe to . . . visit Cuba as they are to walk the streets of New York City — if not more so."

They commented favorably on what they had seen of educational and economic advances in Cuba and on the support the Castro government enjoys from its people.

Of the U.S. trade embargo they observed: "We have all felt an embarrassment at knowing that our government is responsible for many of the needless hardships that the Cuban people today suffer."

The witch-hunters in Congress have proclaimed their intentions to grill these students as they have others who dared travel to Cuba. The State Department is already confiscating their passports, while Kennedy has uttered threats of prosecuting the "ring-leaders" and "Communists" among them.

Every supporter of civil liberties in the U.S., — and these liberties include freedom to travel — owes these students a debt of gratitude for asserting the rights of all.

And that debt must now be paid by unswerving support to them against all those elements of jingoistic reaction in this country thirsting to take revenge on them for their courage.

## N.Y. Courts Uphold Ballot Law As SWP Steps Up Campaign

By Bennett Tangen

NEW YORK — Campaigning goes on for Socialist Workers Party nominee, Clifton DeBerry, Negro candidate for councilman-at-large in Brooklyn, as a running battle continues in the courts over the constitutionality of the upcoming election. The November election is designed to add ten councilmen-at-large to New York's 25-man City Council as a device to provide "minority" representation — for the Republican Party.

A special provision of the City Charter adopted last year provides for the election of two councilmen-at-large from each of the city's five boroughs. By restricting each party to one nominee per borough, and restricting voters to voting for only one candidate, the Democrats are expected to win five seats, with the other five going automatically to the Republicans. At present the Democrats hold 23 seats on the council to the Republicans' two.

The election procedure has been contested in the courts by Robert Blaikie, a candidate for the Democratic nomination in Manhattan, who contends that the election would be unconstitutional in not allowing voters a vote for each of the posts to be filled.

Blaikie was upheld in an Aug. 8 decision by State Supreme Court Justice Irwin D. Davidson. On appeal by city officials, however, the constitutionality of the election law has been upheld by the Appellate Division and by the Court of Appeals, the highest court in the state. Blaikie has announced his intention of appealing to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Decisions both for and against the election system have rested on comparisons with the proportional-representation system in force

in New York from 1937 to 1947. The similarity of the two systems lies in a departure from straight majority representation. There the similarity ends. The present system is an admitted maneuver whose sole purpose is to place five Republicans on the City Council.

### Destroyed Fair System

In the system of proportional representation used here from 1937 to 1947, on the other hand, all candidates in each borough were elected at-large, voters listing the candidates of their choice in order of preference. Probably the most democratic system of voting known, proportional representation was done away with by a coalition of the Republicans and Democrats in 1947 after two Communists had been elected to the Council.

Commenting on the comparisons made of the two systems, Clifton DeBerry, Socialist Workers Party candidate for the councilmanic seat in Brooklyn said, "The pretense that this election is designed to further minority representation is a phony and a fraud. To call the Republicans a 'minority' party is a bad joke. They are 'minority' partners of the Democrats in preserving the status quo, keeping the Negro down and defending big business.

"The only real minority representation this city has ever seen was destroyed by the Republican and Democratic machines in 1947 because they couldn't stand seeing Ben Davis, a Negro Communist, in office."

DeBerry is the only Negro candidate running in Brooklyn. His campaign headquarters are at 116 University Place, N. Y. 3, Tel. AL 5-7852; and at 129 Fifth Ave., Brooklyn 17.

## Reaction to TULC Open Letter

# Stellato Smears Negro Unionists

By Evelyn Sell

DETROIT — One of the most important effects of the Freedom Now struggle is the way it is shaking up the union bureaucracy — those labor leaders who have become part of "the establishment" as labor lieutenants of the white power structure.

Typical of this breed is Walter Reuther — long on speeches about equality and fighting unemployment but short on meaningful actions. Here in Detroit, the headquarters and central base of the United Auto Workers, of which Reuther is president, there is dramatic evidence of the way the civil-rights struggle is upsetting the entrenched bureaucracy.

Reuther and his machine long ago abandoned the militant approach — such as sit-down strikes — which built the UAW and the CIO. They have also abandoned the traditional fighting program of the UAW on unemployment: a shorter work week with no reduction in pay to spread jobs — summed up in the fighting slogan "30 for 40," meaning 30 hours' work for 40 hours' pay.

For a number of years, after Reuther's abandonment of any serious campaign for a shorter work week, the militant 30-for-40 slogan was associated with the giant Ford Local 600 near Detroit, and with that local's president, Carl Stellato. Several years ago, Stellato made his peace with the Reuther machine and also abandoned the slogan in favor of Reuther's intangible "profit-sharing" scheme.

### Work Week Issue

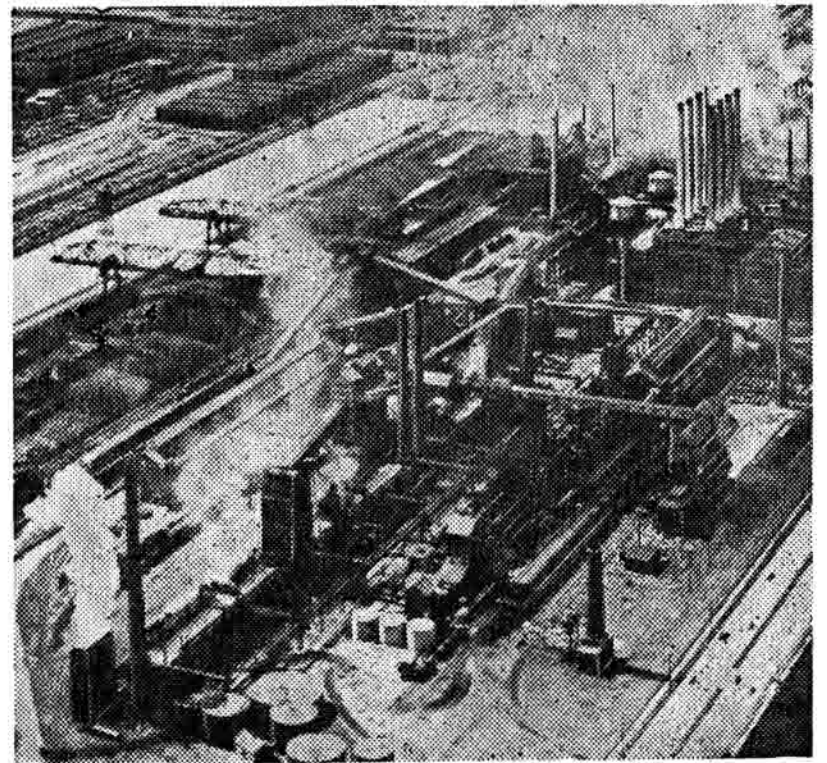
This summer, however, the shorter work week demand came again into prominence from an unexpected source — Robert Battle and Horace Sheffield. Both are prominent supporters of Reuther — Sheffield is on Reuther's payroll, and Battle is an official of Local 600. Both, however, are Negroes and leaders of the Trade Union Leadership Council (TULC), which is the Detroit affiliate of the Negro American Labor Council.

The July issue of the TULC paper, *Vanguard*, published an open letter from the TULC General Council addressed to George Meany, Walter Reuther and Gus Scholle, head of the Michigan AFL-CIO. [It was extensively reported in the July 22 *Militant*.] This letter marked a new departure for the timid, Reutherite, pro-Democratic Party TULC leaders. It pointed out that the labor leaders had the responsibility to lead a serious fight for a big increase in jobs or there could be "open conflict between whites and Negroes for the jobs, the opportunities, which are not sufficient in number for all." The letter also pointed out the danger of a racial conflict within the labor movement from which the employers would profit.

"We believe," said the letter, "you must bring your influence to bear so as to turn the thoughts of those working from profit-sharing to work-sharing." Which means, the letter continued, a program against overtime work and for the shorter work week.

The TULC leaders advocated, moreover, that such a program must be implemented "with the spirit, with many of the very techniques of the civil-rights movement. Ceaseless protest-demonstrations throughout the country, picketing, sit-ins in the halls of Congress, if need be."

The same issue of the *Vanguard* also contained an editorial on the Detroit freedom march. After praising Reuther, it said, "however, we reacted quite differently to the news that two of Detroit's UAW regional directors, Joseph McKusker and George Merrelli, would participate in the 'Walk to Freedom.' Though it was futile, we made a sincere and extended



AERIAL VIEW of part of the huge River Rouge plant in Dearborn, Michigan. The workers of this giant unit of the Ford Motor Company constitute UAW Local 600, the largest union local in the U.S.

effort to discover any worthwhile thing they had ever done that would justify their marching, with clear conscience, in any demonstration connected with 'freedom and equality' for Negroes."

The reaction was not long in coming. The July 20 issue of the Local 600 paper, *Ford Facts* printed a resolution submitted by Stellato demanding that the Local 600 General Council "condemn and censure Robert Battle and Horace Sheffield" for their "callous attacks upon the leadership of the labor movement."

A front-page article by Stellato in the same issue of *Ford Facts* states: "That organization [TULC] is founded on honest and decent principles and is dedicated to some of the same objectives as is the mainstream of the Labor Movement. However, the two top leaders of that organization have perverted those lofty aims and objectives for their own personal objectives. We are positive that in time the rank-and-file membership of that organization will either get its leadership back into the mainstream or eliminate this divisive leadership whose vicious attacks have done much to split the Labor Movement all across the country and most especially in Local 600."

The TULC open letter had also declared that the labor leaders "must assume responsibility for the immediate organization of the white unemployed. Our civil-rights movement will similarly organize the Negro unemployed. This is not a racist departure for us. It is simply an acknowledgment of your capability and our own."

### Revives Old Slander

Stellato answered this last proposal with: "An all-Negro organization, be it composed of employed workers or unemployed workers, is repugnant to the entire concept of trade unionism. Such a proposal for an all-Negro organization would sound logical if it came from the White Citizens Council or the John Birch Society. The fact that it is proposed by Negro trade unionists does not make it acceptable to either Negro or white workers."

In his defense of UAW Regional Directors McCusker and Merrelli, Stellato opened an attack on Local 600's entire Negro membership. After accusing TULC leaders Battle and Sheffield of "training their race-baiting guns on McCusker and Merrelli in anticipation of the convention which will be held next April," Stellato continued, ". . . if there had not been

the dedicated organizational activities of individuals such as Walter Reuther, Joe McCusker, George Merrelli and the others, there would not have been a Ford Local 600 . . . It is a fact that while they were conducting these organizational activities at the risk of their lives and the security of their livelihood, there were those who were scabs on the Ford Motor Company payroll and who threw castings, nuts and bolts at Walter Reuther, Joe McCusker and the thousands of other Ford workers who on that historic date, April 1, 1941, walked out of the Rouge plant to establish a union in Fords; thus it is our opinion that if they, the scabs, Harry Bennett and Henry Ford would have had their way, there would be no Local 600 today nor a TULC President to try to tell us how to operate the Union . . ."

### What Really Happened

This is a reference to an attempted maneuver of Harry Bennett, the then head of Ford's goon-and-thug squad, known as the Service Department, to break the 1941 strike. Bennett had imported hundreds of Negroes from the South, promising them legitimate jobs. He put them inside the Rouge plant, forced them to stay there, and then proclaimed to the nation that these men were lawless sit-downers running wild through the plant. Observers reported that when some of them attempted to leave the plant, they were dragged back and beaten by Bennett's servicemen.

The UAW asked Walter White, then president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to help in explaining the true situation to these men and to ask them to leave the plant. As a result of White's speeches broadcast over loud speakers outside the plant, a group of 200 to 300 men did successfully leave the plant.

The nuts and bolts thrown at pickets were missiles from the Service Department goons and it is the vilest slander against Negro militants, who helped organize and build Local 600, to try to link them with Bennett and Henry Ford.

Stellato's resolution against the two TULC leaders was tabled at the General Council meeting of July 14. Stellato has asked Ford Local members to contact their General Council delegates "and tell them how you feel and what their position should be when this resolution is taken from the table."

IN EAST ST. LOUIS

# Fight Wins Bank Jobs

By Constance Weissman

East St. Louis, Illinois, which is directly across the Mississippi River from St. Louis, Missouri, has been the scene of a dramatic and militant campaign against Jim Crow in employment. Here is an account of the five days that shook East St. Louis — Aug. 12 to Aug. 16.

**Monday:**

Negro demonstrators locked hands in front of tellers' windows and brought business to a halt in the First National, a downtown bank, at 9 a.m. When 47 of them were arrested, they lay down on the floor and police had to carry them out.

The youthful demonstrators were protesting discriminatory employment practices. James Peake, a field secretary for youth of the NAACP, the only white person present, told a reporter for the *St. Louis Post Dispatch* that the demonstrators "will damn well be back at the same bank tomorrow morning doing the same thing."

However, they were back by noon the same day. They were arrested a second time, and released again when the mayor overruled the chief of police.

Peake, a paraplegic, participated from a wheel chair.

Assistant State's Attorney Frank Rain, who came to the bank, asked the demonstrators "if they had business there." The reply was yes, to ask for equal jobs.

(Meanwhile, the Pepsi Cola distributing company in E. St. Louis agreed to hire two Negro salesmen after a demonstration in which 21 were arrested.)

## Negro Nominee Hits Labor Bureaucrats

NEW HAVEN — Independent Negro candidate for mayor, Raymond H. Paige, lashed out at New Haven's Central Labor Council Aug. 10 for its support to incumbent Democratic Mayor Richard C. Lee. Paige, running in opposition to both major parties, charged that the labor body was controlled by Lee and that it did "not represent the vast bulk of workers in New Haven." He said that "many of the larger shops in New Haven are non-union as a result of the complacency and failures of the present leadership."

Paige is the first Negro candidate to run for mayor in the city's history. He is being backed by a group called the Citizens for Political Equality and by the local branch of the Negro American Labor Council.

Paige asserted that Vincent J. Sirabella, president of New Haven's Central Labor Council, is a tool of Mayor Lee, and had backed an attempt of Lee's to stall endorsement of a shorter work week for firemen. Paige also attacked Sirabella's role in civil-rights practices.

In a strong proclamation of the Negroes' need for independent political action, Paige declared:

"If the Negro people have learned anything from this experience it is that neither of the two major parties is their friend or has their interest at heart. Neither major party will solve the problem of poverty and degradation."

**Tuesday:**

A one-day truce was called while Negro leaders met with officials of all the banks in the city.

Leaders of the demonstration rejected as inadequate proposals by bank officials. These included an apprenticeship program to train Negroes for white-collar jobs; the nine banks to hire 20 Negroes immediately as trainees; these trainees to work four hours a week and later be given full-time jobs; within two years, Negroes would have a "full share" of jobs. (Out of 260 persons employed by the largest of the nine companies, there are only 22 Negroes, all but one in menial jobs.)

Leaders of the NAACP Youth Council countered with a demand for a minimum of 50 full-time jobs immediately in the white-collar category for Negroes. Alfred Williams, also a field representative, admitted the idea of what the bank attorney called "mass hiring" was new but said, "the situation is not routine and requires 'un-routine' solutions."

Peake left the meeting in anger. He told reporters that "the negotiators were acting in bad faith by accusing Negroes of seeking featherbedding jobs."

CORE and NAACP leaders accused police of brutality. One demonstrator was kicked while on the floor, they claimed. A photo in the *Post Dispatch* shows cops brutally lifting a young man by one arm and leg.

**Wednesday:**

About 70 Negroes demonstrated at three banks and two savings-and-loan associations.

They marched two abreast to the First National Bank singing "We Shall Overcome." Police halted traffic as the marchers crossed the streets. James Peake's wheel chair was pushed by two demonstrators.

The group stopped at each bank, prayed outside, kneeling with their heads against the building, then left a small group inside who remained kneeling. Volunteers relieved them every 20 minutes.

The demonstrators took turns going for a lunch of sandwiches, soft drinks and potato chips waiting for them in the parking lot directly behind city hall.

One other white person (beside Peake) participated — the owner of a business in the Negro residential area.

**Thursday:**

Demonstrations continued, with about 200 persons, who lay down in the First National lobby, being hauled away by police. Charges were preferred against 33.

**Friday:**

A settlement which the Negro leaders termed satisfactory was reached with the East St. Louis banks.

Under it, 20 Negroes are to be hired in clerical jobs, seven of them in full-time positions immediately. The others on a trainee basis will receive regular jobs as vacancies occur. Trainees will work a minimum of 12 hours a week. No present employees of the banks are to be laid off or discharged.

While these negotiations were in process at city hall, 300 Negro youth maintained a vigil outside.

Hailing the settlement as a major breakthrough, jubilant Negroes marched through the streets (escorted by police) and held a rally in the park. Officials of the Human Relations Commission, an arbitration body, recommended that charges against those arrested in the earlier demonstrations be dropped.

Negro leaders announced that a new campaign for jobs would be started next week against such businesses as supermarkets, the Illinois Power Co., and the South-west Bell Telephone Co.

# Chicago Demonstrators Halt Jim Crow "Willis Wagons"

By Jay Garnett

CHICAGO — The rising determination of the Negro people "to let nobody turn me 'round'" penetrated the skulls of authorities here after three weeks of militant demonstrations against installation of temporary trailer schools in the South Side Negro ghetto. On Aug. 23, Chicago officials announced that the work of installing the trailer schools had been halted pending school board action on a proposed moratorium on use of the site.

The struggle began when School Superintendent Benjamin Willis, in a move obviously designed to continue segregation, ordered the setting up of 20 crude, plywood-sided trailers between an alley and railroad tracks. Each trailer would be a schoolroom for 33 Negro children. It would have been cheaper to bus the children to a nearby school where there is space — but it is lily white.

With the announcement of the trailer project, the 71st and Stewart Committee, organized by neighborhood women about a year ago for a successful boycott of a similar attempt to set up a school in a warehouse, went into action.

On July 30, CORE representatives presented their demands for equality in the schools and included as one of their points reconsideration of the proposed trailer schools. For a week small groups from the 71st & Stewart Committee picketed the site. Early Aug. 2, when the first crews showed up, the committee began to call supporters throughout the city; small children from the neighborhood ran through the area shouting, "The wagons are coming! The wagons are coming!"

**Police Brutal**

Those arrested lay limp and were carried off by the cops to be charged with disorderly conduct, resisting an officer, and — for the mothers who went with their children — contributing to the delinquency of minors. Over 100 demonstrators remained on a picket line carrying signs such as "Willis Wagons Must Go!"; "1863: Emancipation Proclamation — 1963: Willis Wagons — Are We Free? Hell No! — Equality Now!"

After the Aug. 2 lay-ins had failed to halt the leveling of the area, some observers thought a school boycott would be the only alternative. Neighborhood resourcefulness, however, proved otherwise. The block-long area was strewn with garbage by the next day which it would take at least two days under constant police surveillance to clear off.

As authorities stubbornly pushed ahead with the installation of the trailers, demonstrators found the cops resorting to Birmingham-type brutality. Large numbers were arrested, among them Dick Gregory, who was arrested twice and refused to sign his bond and was kept in jail. Demonstrators were beaten and punched in the bellies with nightsticks. Cops threatened the use of dogs.

On Aug. 12, when two of the trailers were moved onto the site, one young Negro girl hurled herself into a ditch, dug for plumbing. She heard Mrs. Rosie Simpson, chairman of the 71st and Stewart Committee, shouting "Stop! Stop!" and looked up to see the teeth of the steam shovel descending on her. Both were arrested for interfering with the construction. Soon several dozen more were hauled off by the police who reportedly beat them in the back of the patrol wagons a few blocks away.

Since police blocked off the site with wooden horses and stationed themselves facing the demonstrators on the open side of the work area, the problem for the demonstrators was to get through without being tackled.

Negro Alderman Charles Chew, who had previously been criticised



LIE-IN. Demonstrator is hauled off by Chicago cops.

by the demonstrators for lack of support, joined the pickets. He could be seen, surrounded by pickets heatedly telling him: "This isn't politics we're playing — this is lives." The next day's *Chicago Defender* reported that Chew had added his charge of police brutality to that made by Dick Gregory.

Police surrounded pickets in the alley and tried to drive them out. They attacked a 20-year-old youth with their clubs and dragged him off by the neck.

Regrouping the pickets, Mrs. Simpson, who had just been released on bail, told them: "We have to continue to be orderly and non-violent. When we decide to change our tactics, we'll let you know."

In jail, the arrested demonstrators were given nothing to eat nor a chance to contact lawyers. In protest they shook the jail with noise. When the lights were put out as punishment, they lit papers and filled the building with smoke. Finally the lights were turned back on.

An American Indian girl from

Green Bay, Wisconsin, and a Negro youth climbed up a utility pole on the site, remaining until police forced them down. A white girl climbed atop a Willis Wagon and had to be taken off in a canvas bag.

One afternoon when demonstrators were attempting to chain themselves together, after the fashion of the Brooklyn demonstrations, police attacked, pushing and kicking them into the patrol wagons — beating them on the backs with their clubs. A cop dragged one Negro girl across the lot by a chain attached to her ankle. He was knocked cold by a chunk of brick hurled by a Negro teenager from far enough away to escape. One cop pulled his gun on a white demonstrator; another threatened the use of dogs.

Police Chief Wilson is reported to have declared that "all necessary force" would be used in making arrests. Democratic Mayor Daley expressed his "complete confidence" in Wilson's ability to handle the situation.

## Antioch Students Convicted, Fined in Barber Shop Sit-ins

By Arthur Maglin

YELLOW SPRINGS, Ohio, Aug. 12 — Seventeen students were sentenced today by Greene County Judge Reynold C. Hoefflin for a sit-in demonstration at Geger's Barber Shop. They were fined \$35 each plus court costs and given 30-day suspended jail sentences.

The barber had been found guilty under a Yellow Springs ordinance forbidding discrimination in public accommodations. He was fined \$1. This decision was later reversed when Geger was tried under the Ohio Public Accommodation Act. The judge then said that Geger was obviously prejudiced but barbers were a profession and not a public accommodation and, therefore, had a legal right to discriminate. This decision is being appealed.

**Activate Townspeople**

The 17 demonstrators, members of the Antioch Committee for Racial Equality (ACRE), a campus group at Antioch College, are appealing their case. The sentencing judge has indicated that it might go all the way to the Supreme Court. In this, he was echoing Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren, who in a speech in Dayton, indicated he would not

care to comment on the case because it might come before the high court.

The intensified student protests at this last discriminating public accommodation in Yellow Springs, generated the growth of ACTION, an organization of local residents. Five ACTION members were arrested for a sit-in at the barber shop. When five more attempted a sit-in early last week, the shop closed for the rest of the week.

The barber-shop battle engendered other civil-rights progress in Yellow Springs. The town bank hired its first Negro employee, a teller. ACTION members have begun projects to increase social contacts between whites and Negroes (Yellow Springs has approximately 4,000 people, a third of whom are Negro).

The court costs of the case of the 17 sit-inners, including the appeal, are estimated above \$3,000 and are expected to increase as the case is pursued through the courts. A victory might make sit-in demonstrations in public accommodations legal in the North. Contributions may be sent to: ACRE Legal Fund, Antioch Union, Yellow Springs, Ohio.

### How Cuba Uprooted Race Discrimination

By Harry Ring

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## Chinese Leader Issues Statement

## Mao Backs Negro Freedom Fight

Mao Tse-tung, chairman of the Communist Party of China, who rarely makes public statements, departed from his usual practice Aug. 8 to speak out in support of the struggle of the Negro people in the U.S.

Mao made a 1,000-word statement to a group of Africans visiting Peking. He said he was doing so at the request of Robert F. Williams, the North Carolina Negro leader, who fled the U.S. under threat of lynching or imprisonment on a frame-up and was then granted asylum in revolutionary Cuba.

Mao opened his statement by saying:

"A leader of the Negro Americans, who finds himself today exiled in Cuba, Mr. Robert Williams, ex-President of the Monroe chapter in North Carolina of the NAACP of the U.S., has asked me twice this year to make a declaration in support of the fight of

Negro Americans against racial discrimination.

"I should like to take this opportunity to express in the name of the Chinese people our resolve to support the Negro American in his fight against racial discrimination and for liberty and equality of rights."

Mao then described the social and economic position of Negroes in the U.S., the struggle in Birmingham, the murder of Medgar Evers and plans for the Aug. 28 March on Washington.

"The rapid development of the fight of the Negro American," he said, "is a manifestation of the growing sharpness of the conflict between classes and the national struggle within the U.S. and has awakened growing uneasiness in the dominant circles in the U.S.... In the final analysis, a national struggle is a question of class struggle..."

"I call upon the workers, peasants, revolutionary intellectuals, enlightened elements of the bourgeoisie and other enlightened persons of all colors in the world — white, black, yellow, brown, etc. — to unite against the racial discrimination practiced by U.S. imperialism and to support American Negroes in their struggle against racial discrimination..."

Mao also said: "The evil system of colonialism and imperialism grew up along with the enslavement of Negroes and the trade in Negroes; it will surely come to its end with the complete emancipation of the black people..."

"In the U.S. those who oppress the Negro American are no more than the dominant reactionary circles among the whites. They can in no way represent the overwhelming majority of white workers, farmers, revolutionary intellectuals and other enlightened persons."

"Today there are a handful of



Mao Tse-tung

imperialists with the U.S. at the head and a handful of reactionaries of many countries supporting them. It is these people who practice oppression, aggression and threats against the large majority of people and nations of the entire world. We are the majority and they are the minority. At most they represent less than ten per cent of the three billion inhabitants of the whole world.

"I am profoundly convinced that counting on the support of 90 per cent of the population of the world, the just fight of the Negro American will be crowned with victory..."

"The fascist atrocities committed by the U.S. imperialists against the Negro have laid bare the true nature of the so-called democracy and revealed the inner link between the reactionary policies pursued by the U.S. government at home and its policies of aggression abroad."



Robert F. Williams

## World Events

## General Strike in Bombay

On Aug. 12, the municipal workers of Bombay, India, went on strike for a 25 per cent increase in their cost-of-living allowance.

Eight days later, they were joined in a sympathetic stoppage by some 700,000 transport, dock, hotel and factory workers, who united in a general strike to protest rising prices, heavy taxation and the government's compulsory deposit plan. This is a plan in which the workers are required to put a certain part of their pay into the banks as a "loan" to the government.

At least a million and a half workers are expected to join in a one-day token strike to protest rising prices and the compulsory deposits plan.

The Communist Party-dominated All India Trade Union Congress did not plan to join in the strike, but finally had to for fear of being isolated in the union movement.

Some 950 people have been arrested under a regulation which prohibits strikes during an emergency. India was placed in a state of emergency last fall at the time of the border clash with China.

## Spain's Chamber of Horrors

Two more names have been added to the list of butchered victims of fascist dictator Franco. On Aug. 17, Francisco Granados Gata and Joaquín Delgado Martínez, both 30, were garroted for allegedly bombing a police station and a union headquarters. Both men denied any guilt at their trial and said they had earlier "confessed" to the crime only to protect the lives of others.

Garroting is a form of execu-

tion in which the victim is strangled by an iron collar affixed to a post and tightened from behind by the executioner turning a screw.

## Colombian Oil Striker Killed

Police accused "leftist terrorists" of blowing up pipelines of a government oil refinery closed down by a strike in Barrancabermeja, 175 miles north of Bogota, Colombia, on Aug. 13. Fifteen union leaders were arrested for questioning.

On Aug. 24, Texaco workers in central Colombia, who struck in sympathy with the Barrancabermeja workers, clashed with troops. One striker was killed and two were wounded.

## Betancourt Rigging Election?

In Caracas, Venezuela, the Supreme Electoral Council suspended its work of supervision of preparations for the coming presidential election in protest against the arrest of one of its members.

Dr. Alirio Ugarte Pelayo, who is also a leader of the Democratic Republican Union Party, was arrested on Aug. 22 on a charge of plotting against the Government. Eight others were arrested on the same charge. Dr. Ugarte Pelayo denied the charge and said the Government was against him because of his opposition to the regime of President Romulo Betancourt.

## Bolivia Mine Strike

If Bolivian president Victor Paz Estenssoro succeeds in breaking a strike of tin miners at the state-owned Catavi-Siglo Veinte mines he will be awarded a \$65,000,000 "aid" package by the U.S. government according to a report in the

Aug. 12 N.Y. Times. The miners struck Aug. 9 after rejecting a government contract which would have laid off 1,051 workers, reduced overtime and special bonus pay, and worsened working conditions.

The government cut off food supplies to the remote mines in an attempt to starve out the miners three days after the fight began.

According to recent reports, however the strike is apparently still solid since the government has been trying to arrange meetings with the strikers.

## Slovak Workers On Strike

A two-day strike in a shop in Bratislava, capital of Slovakia, has been reported by the Slovak trade union newspaper *Praca* [Labor.] Grievances of the workers in a state maintenance workshop were reported to include a drop in wages and neglect by the union. When the workers demanded the manager of the enterprise come explain to them why their earnings had dropped, he reportedly told them it was not his concern.

Slovakia has recently been a center of ferment against the Stalinist crimes of the Novotny clique that still controls the Czechoslovak Communist Party regime. Slovak intellectuals and Communist Party groups have been most outspoken in demanding rehabilitation of purged Communists. Rudolf Slansky, chief victim of the purge trials staged in 1952 against "Trotskyite-Titoists," has recently been legally absolved of the crimes for which he was executed. However, since Novotny himself helped frame Slansky, Novotny still maintains that Slansky was guilty of "anti-party offenses."

## NSA Congress Considers Case of Indicted Students

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Aug. 23 — Nearly 1,000 students from all over the country are at Indiana University in Bloomington for the 16th Congress of the National Student Association, Aug. 18-28. Bloomington is the bailiwick of Prosecutor Thomas A. Hoadley, who recently secured the indictments of three IU students for allegedly advocating violent overthrow of the government.

Ralph Levitt, James Bingham and Tom Morgan, officers of the IU chapter of the Young Socialist Alliance, were reindicted July 18 after the original indictment had been quashed for faulty wording. This is the first case in American history of students being charged with sedition for campus activities.

Most delegates arriving at the congress had already heard about this unique case. By the end of the congress they should have a chance to take a position on it. A resolution has been placed on the congress agenda to declare NSA's support for the defendants.

Leading NSA members met in the annual Co-ordinators' Conference before the congress convened. Hundreds of delegates at that time heard IU Dean of Students, Robert Shafer, condemn the state sedition law as unconstitutional and Prosecutor Hoadley's tactics as unscrupulous. Shafer said that IU had conducted its own investigation of the YSA and given it "a clean bill of health."

Even a spokesman for the Goldwaterite Young Americans for Freedom saw in the case an infringement of civil liberties. Tom Huston, well-known conservative around IU campus and Midwest secretary for YAF, gave the opinion at a public seminar that the defendants and the YSA were obviously not guilty and that the act was unjustly applied to them.

A highlight of the congress was the appearance of Prosecutor Hoadley himself before the assembled students. News of his scheduled talk brought over 300 delegates to a freedom-of-speech seminar that normally would have attracted about 50. There students from all over the country had a chance to experience for themselves the kind of unscrupulous treatment that the indicted YSAers have steadily experienced at the hands of Hoadley.

## Soft Sell

Throughout his talk, the prosecutor tried to give the impression that not he, but the Monroe County grand jury had pressed for indictment, that he was merely doing his job. But this contrasted with his public record of a series of headline-seeking, inflammatory statements on the YSA since last February. The jury handed down the indictments in May.

The reaction of the students to Hoadley's remarks was generally unfavorable. Questions by the delegates were uniformly skeptical and often hostile. One persistent student asked whether Hoadley personally believed the YSA was a threat to the U.S. government. The prosecutor tried to dodge the question by saying the grand jury seemed to think so. But the questioner insisted on hearing Hoadley's own opinion.

Hoadley was forced to stammer, "Oh, I don't know."

The next day's Bloomington *Herald-Telephone* stated, "Hoadley then went on to charge this morning that some of the questions toward the end of the question-and-answer period seemed to have been deliberately planned." The prosecutor said he had been informed that a YSA member had been sitting in the audience pointing to persons who would then ask hostile questions.

Indignation ran high when the delegates heard these charges. It was demonstrated that the alleged YSA member named by

Hoadley had not even been present. Moreover, students deeply resented the implication that they had been manipulated and did not have the intelligence to formulate their own questions.

Representatives of the Committee to Aid the Bloomington Students have been present throughout the congress, distributing information on the case and obtaining names for the CABS mailing list. A number of delegates have expressed the intention of forming CABS chapters on their own campuses this fall.

Tom Morgan, 22-year old defendant from Terre Haute, Ind., was able to address the sub-committee drawing up the resolution to support the defendants and to speak before the "Liberal Caucus" which chose a committee to present the resolution to the Congress.

## A Passport Victory Reunites Pomeroy

An end to a 12-year ordeal of separation for William Pomeroy and his wife, Celia, is now in sight as the result of world-wide protest to the Philippine government. Authorities in Manila have finally issued a passport to Mrs. Pomeroy which will enable her to join her husband in some other country. That cannot be the U.S., for just as he is forbidden to enter the Philippines, so she is kept out of the U.S. by the repressive Walter-McCarran Law. But until the protest campaign, the Philippine government refused even to issue her a passport so that she might join her husband in a third country.

As a U.S. soldier in World War II, Pomeroy served in the Philippines, where he became sympathetic to the peasant movement known as the Huks. After discharge from the army, he returned to Manila to study at the university there. He stayed on as a writer and married Celia Mariano, a teacher, who had been one of the first to join the Huk resistance movement against the Japanese occupation.

During the post-war repression of the Huks, both joined the guerrilla forces as teachers and writers. They were captured in 1952 and given life sentences. In 1961, a committee headed by Vincent Hallinan, which had been formed after the *National Guardian* had revealed the facts in the Pomeroy case, finally won them their freedom. But the long separation of their years of prison was continued by the immediate deportation of William Pomeroy to the U.S. and the inability of Celia to follow him there or to leave the Philippines so that they might be reunited in a third country.

Hundreds of protests from people all over the world, including famous artists and writers, finally brought about a humane solution to the Pomeroy's tragic situation. On Aug. 1 William Pomeroy was able to announce: "I have just received a cablegram from my wife in Manila which reads — PASSPORT GRANTED."



Celia Pomeroy

# Letters From Our Readers

## Extend Right to Vote

New York, N.Y.  
I want to call the attention of your readers to an editorial in the *New York Times* of Aug. 1 entitled "Aquí Se Habla Inglés" ("English Spoken Here"). A more appropriate title would have been: "Speak, Read and Write English or Forfeit Your Civil Rights!"

The editorial strongly attacks proposals for allowing literacy tests to be given in Spanish, while admitting that Spanish is the second language of New York City, spoken by tens of thousands of Puerto Ricans and other Latin American minorities.

The pious reason put forth by the *Times* is: "We oppose a purely political change of requirement that would retard integration not advance it."

Aside from this hypocrisy, the

editorial's tone reveals the naked arrogance of the rich and mighty towards the rights of the people. They view voting as a privilege they condescend to grant.

The *Times* argues that if Puerto Ricans come here to work and live they must learn the language. Conveniently, it overlooks the fact that U.S. control of the island since 1898 has forced Puerto Ricans to leave their land and come to the U.S. for the grand privilege of making a poverty-level livelihood in the sweat shops, laundries and kitchens of this country.

A point not to be forgotten is that in parts of the U.S., Spanish was spoken before English and, for example, the state of New Mexico has made both English and Spanish official state languages.

The usual argument for literacy in English as a qualification for voting is that the voter must know and understand local issues to vote intelligently. The *Times* cannot use this argument to justify disfranchisement of the Spanish-speaking people of New York. There are Spanish-language dailies published here, magazines, radio programs and even television shows that cover the American scene as adequately (or inadequately) as their English-language counterparts. The Puerto Rican who is literate in Spanish is just as equipped to make a voting choice as voters literate in English.

I feel that the real reason behind the *Times*' opposition is fear. This is a fear on the part of the rich that the Puerto Ricans, especially the oppressed majority, if given easier access to the ballot, will combine politically with their North American Negro brothers and sisters (whose proficiency in English has not prevented their being segregated) to fight against segregation and all its accompanying evils. This alliance would find its counterpart in other parts of the country such as California and Texas with their large combined Negro and Mexican sectors.

I can only assume that the purported desire of the *New York Times* for further integration is in reality an expression of its fear of a strengthening of the integration struggle.

Richard Garza

## The Test-Ban Treaty

Chicago, Ill.  
The nuclear test ban is only a first step in the direction of world peace, and a very small one at that. It should be clear to every peace-minded person that a world pact that excludes nearly one fourth of the human race has very serious shortcomings.

If the United States and the Soviet Union are desirous of cooperating in international projects to strengthen world peace, I would suggest they forget about a trip to the moon and concentrate on working out a 25-year plan of Soviet and American economic aid to the Chinese Peoples Republic.

This would be the true path to world peace; it could keep American factories humming for at least a quarter of a century and it would cost a lot less than the arms race of World War III.

It seems to me that progressives in the United States should point out this action as the next logical step on the road to a really secure peace.

John Rossen

## Lauds Coverage

Ithaca, N. Y.  
Your coverage of the Freedom Movement is terrific. Your stuff on Algeria and Cuba is some of the best going. Do continue, and good luck.

P.B.

## On Stalin and Khrushchev

Iowa City, Iowa  
An article appeared on the editorial page of the July 28th issue of the *Des Moines Register*, by editor Lauren Soth which purports to be a review of a newly published book, Schulman's *Stalin's Foreign Policy Reappraised*. Many of the ideas expressed in the article and presumably in the book under examination seem to dovetail, albeit unconsciously, with many ideas I've seen expressed in *The Militant* and the *International Socialist Review*.

I'm thinking especially of the observation that there is a direct continuity between Stalin's conceptual framework of "socialism in one country" and Premier Khrushchev's use of *realpolitik* and sphere-of-influence reasoning which has led him to the corollary of "peaceful co-existence."

The article is, of course, filled with a large number of the ab-

surdities of rewritten history (for example, I.F. Stone's book, *The Hidden History of the Korean War*, pretty much demolishes and dispels Soth's official fantasies of Chinese invasions and Kremlin grabs for Korea) and the article taken as a whole is generally worthless for any real analytical use. Nevertheless, I think the article does hint at a few ideas I had rarely seen outside the radical press.

For while one can legitimately argue from a "left" position that "socialism in one country" is non-revolutionary and does not thereby allow itself to a full attack against the center of monopoly capitalism, nevertheless, the organic obverse of that very same argument points to the fact that the only threat to world peace comes from the imperialist powers, held from each other's throats in the past only by their subscription to the myth that the socialist bloc was plotting aggression against them.

And Soth points out that the intrinsic ingredient of Russian policy was always, even under Stalin, that of peace. Which for a thinker of Soth's persuasion, who has rarely strayed from the State Department line, must be quite a

difficult admission to make. For, whether or not he realizes it, he has fundamentally destroyed the intellectual framework upon which the past generation of American foreign policy has rested.

D.C.

## A Form of Segregation?

Fort Bragg, Calif.  
A great many people are opposed to the idea of segregation of white and colored people in schools and elsewhere and rightly so, but the majority of these people overlook the fact that in almost every community in the land there exists another form of segregation that to many people is equally obnoxious, unjust and unreasonable.

I refer to the system of segregated parochial schools operated by the Roman Catholic church which, for all practical purposes builds a wall around their own pupils and segregates them from their little Protestant playmates and pals.

If it is wrong to segregate certain pupils because their skin is of a different color, is it not equally wrong to segregate another group because they go to a different church?

J.O.

## It Was Reported in the Press

**Our Vanishing Liberties** — "VANDALIA, Ohio (UPI) — The City Council recently passed an ordinance making it illegal to escape from the city jail."

**What More Could You Ask?** — Anyone who claims that society isn't interested in doing something effective for the deprived and the wayward should take heart from the news that a group of society debs (including Charlotte Ford of the flivver empire) are helping to rehabilitate young female delinquents by teaching them how to apply make-up, do their hair, and stand and walk properly.

**(Some) People's Capitalism** — *Man & Manager*, a bulletin for employers, reports the decision of an arbitrator in the case of two employees of a company who were docked a day's pay for attending a stock-holders' meeting even though they each owned a share of stock in the company. The decision: "The absence from work of an employee who is also a company shareholder — however commendable the interest of such employe in the company's corporate affairs may be — nevertheless fails to meet the applied standards or test of urgency or compelling reason to justify a compensated absence."

**Desecration Ceremonies** — At a recent ceremony in South Vietnam in which a "strategic hamlet" (concentration camp) was dedicated to and named after Frederick E. Nolting Jr., the outgoing U.S. ambassador, the *New York Times* reports, "an American gunner in a helicopter accidentally set off his machine gun, killing a child and wounding four persons." Moreover, "a United States jeep convoying Mr. Nolting on an inspection tour . . . ran over and killed a three-year-old boy."

**Special Consideration for LBJ.** — Pointing out that the Justice Department has carefully refrained from bringing any civil-rights suits in Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson's home state, Texas, Sidney Zagri, legislative counsel

for the Teamster's Union, commented: "It would be distressing for Johnson's newly discovered role of moral leader in the field of civil rights if he were to be embarrassed on his home grounds by civil-rights suits filed from Washington."

**Christian Charity** — In Montreal, Canada, a man was sent to jail for a year recently for stealing 95 cents from a church presbytery. Frank Stefanik, described by the police as a drifter and ex-convict, was alleged to have taken the money from a saucer where money was left to help needy men who might appear begging for aid.

**A Sensible Idea** — Elimination of Baltimore's \$280,000 civil-defense program and use of the money for the city's social and economic needs has been urged by City Councilman Henry G. Parks, Jr. "There are too many existing catastrophic situations in Baltimore," he said, "to be spending the money on a local civil-defense program." Parks is one of two Negroes on the council.

**Soap Salesman** — Reporting that evangelist Billy Graham's organization now operates on an annual budget of \$6 billion, *New York Times* correspondent Gladwyn Hill writes: "Today the Graham organization is as efficient and smooth working as General Motors or IBM. And he makes no apology for this, 'We are selling the greatest product on earth,' he says. 'Why shouldn't we promote

it as effectively as we promote a bar of soap?'"

**Our Equitable Society** — In case you're wondering about what factors are generating the worldwide colonial revolution against imperialism, consider this random statistic: The value of food consumed per person each day in the U.S. is \$1.07 as compared to ten cents a day in India.

**Nuclear Normalcy** — A recently published *Domesday Dictionary* includes these items: "Postwar Postage, Free. Free franking privileges instituted for the use of survivors of thermonuclear attacks . . . the government of Canada, for instance, has stockpiled postage-free postcards to be used for change of address notifications." "Translation. An effect produced in populated areas by the blast wind of a nuclear detonation, where people are lifted and thrown about violently, causing injury to other people. A person so affected is said to have been translated . . ."

**Military Science Marches On** — It was announced in Washington that plastic sousaphones weighing only 19 pounds compared with 38 pounds for the brass horns have been developed for Army bands.

**Housing Shortage Still Spreads** — A headline on the front page of the real estate section of the *New York Times* recently announced: "Crowded Jails Plague the City."

## 10 YEARS AGO IN THE MILITANT

"In special issues published during the events, the *Samasamaja*, weekly newspaper of the Ceylonese section of the Fourth International, hailed the general strike which swept Ceylon two weeks ago as a tremendous victory won by the people through their unity in action . . ."

"The nation-wide stoppage was called by the workers' organizations headed by the Lanka Samasamaja Party in protest against government economic policy. In defiance of its electoral promises the capitalist government had reduced rice rations and tripled the price of this principal food of the people. This came on top of increased prices for other necessities.

"The government met the mass protest by declaring a state of emergency with the harshest penalties for the demonstrators. There were many casualties resulting from clashes between the military and police and the demonstrators . . ."

"At the height of the strike movement the Lanka Samasamaja Party issued a statement demanding that the government withdraw the Emergency Regulations, resign immediately, hold fresh general elections and give the people an opportunity to elect a government of their own choice. It also called for the immediate appointment of a Public Commission to inquire into the shootings by the police and military." — August 31, 1953.

## 20 YEARS AGO

"The current issue of *Fortune* magazine has a long article praising the Detroit Murray Corporation of America for its incentive wage plan and the 'square shooting' that helps to account for labor satisfaction with incentives."

"The ink was hardly dry on this article when 9,000 UAW members employed by the Murray Corporation walked out on August 28 in protest against a provocative company order docking a half-hour's pay from the wages of workers who were a minute or more late from their fifteen-minute lunch period.

"The auto barons have not changed their spots. They are still the same gang of greedy, chiseling anti-labor profiteers. The incentive plan is being pushed today with the argument that the bosses, concerned with increasing production alone, will not chisel on the workers, as they did under previous versions of the speedup plan. The Murray experience shows how false this argument is and how little the bosses are to be trusted in anything."—September 4, 1943.

## Thought for the Week

"Every time I read about a South American revolution, I knew I'd lost another set of good clients." — Paris fashion designer Jean Dessès.

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## The Freedom Battle in Philadelphia

## Open Fight on Ghetto Slumlords

By Nick Carlin and K. Namdle

PHILADELPHIA — This city's Negro community once again is taking the lead in bringing the FREEDOM NOW struggle to a new turning point.

In 1960, Philadelphians organized the first Woolworth picket line. In 1961, Philly's 400 Negro ministers organized the first of the ministerial boycotts of Jim-Crow firms. And this year, Philadelphians conducted the first sit-ins at a city hall, and the first mass picketing of Jim-Crow unions and construction sites.

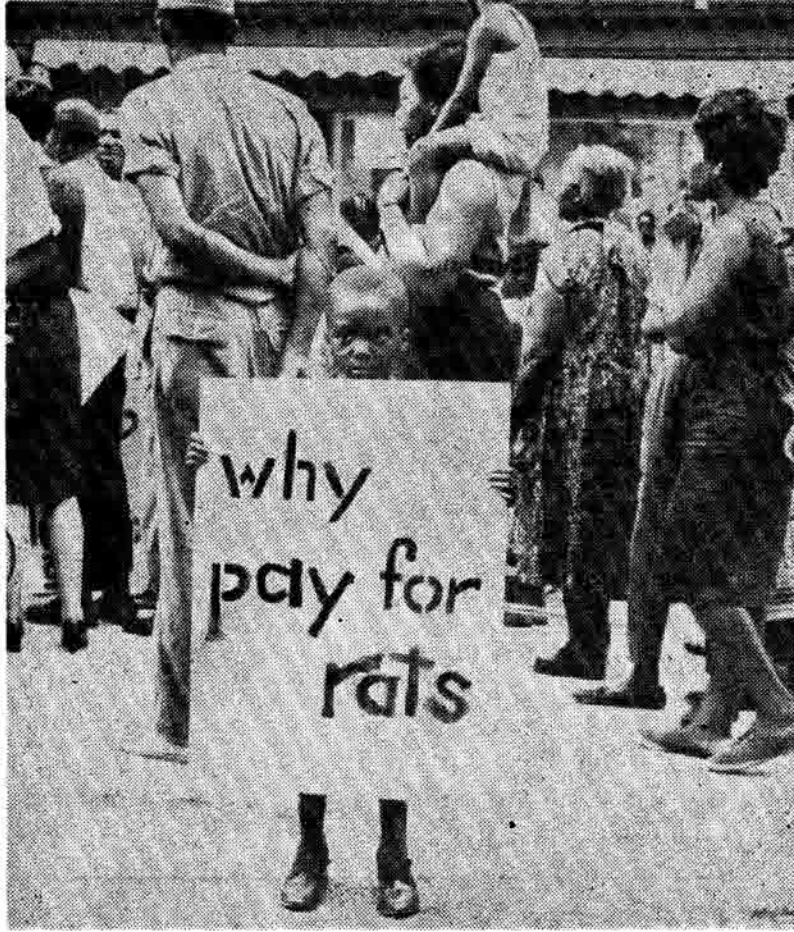
Now, under the leadership of Philadelphia CORE, the first mass slum-tenant protests since the latest wave of Negro militancy began, are taking shape.

In an area of Philadelphia which, since before the Civil War, has been infamous for its ghastly slum conditions, where rats are a direct menace to sleeping children, where cooking is done on unventilated wood stoves, where usable water is a rarity, and heat, like democracy, is something talked about but never experienced, CORE has begun picketing the offices of Saul, Howard, and Leonard Levin, three brothers who are among the largest slumlords in South Philadelphia.

In this part of Philadelphia's black ghetto, unemployment predominates over employment, and constable Levin (a relative) has forcibly evicted an undetermined number of people, tossing out their "unusable" (for whites like Levin) belongings, and leaving the "good" furniture in the building to await the sheriff's sale.

A week and a half ago CORE announced the beginning of a tenant's project. And, as the CORE Housing Committee reported, representatives immediately met with the slumlords who insisted that their houses had no violations of the city housing code. (One of the Levin brothers brags that he helped to write the code.) They claimed that they didn't have the resources to fix them up; furthermore their tenants weren't people but animals who enjoyed living that way; and again that there weren't any violations. At this point the city officials stepped in and promised prosecution of the slumlords. Such promises however had been heard before, so on Thursday, Aug. 8, CORE decided to picket.

Friday night a rally, featuring the appearance of jazz drummer Max Roach, raised the spirits of



KNOWS WHEREOF HE SPEAKS. Philadelphia youngster in anti-slum campaign poses pertinent question.

the 1,000 or more participants with hope of changing the inhuman conditions of life in South Philly. The demonstration lasted four hours, covered six or seven blocks of the neighborhood, stopped traffic, and picketed all three offices of the Levins.

All three Levin offices were closed in anticipation of the demonstrations, and as Lou Smith, former chairman of Philadelphia CORE observed, "Well, if they're closed up, we can't pay much rent."

The general feeling among the people of the area is that if they stick together, they can win. A Korean War veteran, father of two children, one of whom was recently attacked by a rat, said, "I

could go with my wife and kids and live in Germantown with my parents, but I'm 35 and a man's got to stand on his own two feet. I'm staying right here and fighting. I don't think that more than five people have paid any rent today."

The black workers of Philly are ready to fight. They will have to fight more than the slum lords. They will fight the city government, the cops, and every money bag in the city. Can they win? With solidarity, conscious determined leadership, and the support of all those whites who talk good, yes! Let's all put our money where our mouths are, and fight behind the lead of Philly's Negro working people.

## The Dump-in — a Dirty Tactic

Philadelphia CORE demonstrators on Aug. 17 invented a new tactic that has set a precedent for civil-rights fighters in other cities. Protesting slum housing, South Philadelphia residents gathered mountains of trash that landlords had refused to remove, and piled it in front of a laundry owned by slumlord William "Uncle Bill" Lehrfeld.

Later in the day a car caravan of 200 demonstrators escorted a truckload of assorted rubbish to the home of realtor Saul Levin, in the exclusive Wynnefield section of West Philadelphia.

En route to their destination, the motorcade was stopped by police who tried to persuade them to turn back. Instead, 100 demonstrators formed a circle in a large intersection nearby, causing a mammoth-traffic jam. The cops then decided to allow them to proceed.

They were met at the slumlord's driveway by a line of uniformed police who refused to permit the demonstrators to pass. The protestors responded by dumping the rubbish at the policeman's feet and setting up a picket line in front of the landlord's house.

On Aug. 21, the dump-in tactic spread to New York as members of the New York University chapter of CORE sponsored a trash dump on the steps of City Hall. A

truckload of rubbish, including a live rat in a cage, was collected in a nearby slum area and driven to City Hall as a picket line of about 80 was started in City Hall Plaza. Eight demonstrators were arrested when they began to unload the truck. They were charged with disorderly conduct and littering. The trash was carted away by the city.

Thirty Negro and white demonstrators in Peoria, Ill., prevented Water Work Co. trucks from entering the company garage Aug. 13 in a protest against the utility's discriminatory hiring policies. The demonstrators lay in the path of the trucks and marched about with placards declaring: "Jim Crow Must Go."

Negro servicemen in Japan are conducting sit-ins at off-base segregated bars and restaurants.

Negro airmen of the U.S. 5th Air Force near Misawa air force base entered segregated off-base establishments Aug. 8 and asked to be served. When refused, they left and returned with a larger group to stay until closing time. Other sit-ins have been reported near the Itazuke and Tachikawa air bases and Iwakuni air station, a Marine Corps installation. About 400 Negroes are stationed at Misawa.

## Jersey Negroes Picket for Jobs

By Tom Leonard

The Elizabeth, N.J., chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People set up a picket line on Aug. 5 at the site of a new \$5 million annex to the courthouse in a drive to win jobs for Negroes in the building trades.

Spearheading the campaign were local NAACP president Frank J. Kennedy, 26, a postal worker, and Henry T. Brown, 30, a chemical engineer. The two are part of a group of young militants who recently replaced an older, more conservative leadership in the Elizabeth NAACP. Their well-organized action quickly won the support of other NAACP chapters which joined forces to form the Union County Civil Rights Coordinating Committee (UCCRCC).

Up to 350 pickets at one time have demonstrated at the courthouse building site and have succeeded in slowing down construction. On Aug. 16, UCCRCC expanded picketing to include the site of a new 14-story private apartment building in Elizabeth.

An effective tactic of the freedom fighters has been to line up five or six rows of pickets in the street leading to a building site. Standing with interlocked arms, they block the street from curb to curb, halting delivery trucks. It has taken the cops nearly an hour to break up this formation.

Police have become increasingly brutal. On Aug. 9, 16-year-old picket Janice Morrell was knocked down, kicked in the head, and

hospitalized during an attempt to smash the picketline. So far 128 freedom pickets have been arrested. Ten, including UCCRCC leader Rev. Benjamin J. Whipper Jr., 27, were fined \$100 and given 30-day suspended jail sentences.

This court action was taken Aug. 22, the same day that Elizabeth Mayor Steven J. Bercik had arranged a meeting with the UCCRCC. Gov. Richard J. Hughes attended the meeting and asked for a week's suspension of picketing. UCCRCC leaders rejected the proposal until Aug. 25. Then after two and a half hours they called off picketing pending another meeting with Gov. Hughes.

One of the major obstacles to settling the job dispute is the refusal of local building trades union bureaucrats to agree to UCCRCC's modest demand that two Negro apprentices be immediately hired and put to work in each of the building trades. So far only the Lathers Union has agreed.

NAACP President Frank Kennedy, making it clear that even if the building trades dispute is settled, his organization will continue to fight for freedom, said: "There is a new spirit among Negroes here. They are united as they never were before. We are going forward."

## 17 Labor Heads Support Negroes

By Murray Zuckoff

SWP Candidate for N.J. State Senator

NEWARK — A crack developed in the New Jersey labor movement's earlier stand that there was no racial discrimination in unions here and that therefore picketing of construction sites by Negroes was to be condemned and, in fact, enjoined by the courts.

Credit for cracking this reactionary stand goes to 17 leaders of industrial unions affiliated with the New Jersey AFL-CIO. They came to the aid of Newark's civil-rights fighters by condemning "those who seek to preserve discrimination . . . by the use of court injunctions."

The reference was to a court injunction obtained by the Essex County Building and Construction Trades Council against the Newark Co-ordinating Committee, which consists of ten groups active in the struggle to get jobs for Negroes. The injunction obtained by the building trades union bureaucrats had stopped that committee's picketing of a school construction project.

Stating that picketing is an age-old method of protest for aggrieved people and that it had been one of labor's most important weapons, the 17 industrial union leaders went on record, in a statement to Gov. Hughes' Civil Rights Committee, supporting the picketing of the Newark school construction site because of existing discrimination and condemning the use of an injunction against the picketing.

In a counter-statement, the president of the Essex County Building and Construction Trades Council reiterated that there was no discrimination in his unions — even though a federal hearing revealed that out of 4,000 apprentices in New Jersey only 14 are Negroes.

## Committee Protests Police Beating of Puerto Rican Youth

NEW YORK — Two Puerto Rican independence groups have formed a committee here to protest a case of extreme police brutality aimed at stifling their public advocacy of independence for Puerto Rico. They are the Unitary Patriotic Action (APU) and the Movement for Liberation of Puerto Rico (MLPR) and they are jointly sponsoring the Committee to Defend Andres Suarez.

Suarez was brutally beaten by police and left lying on the pavement, according to the committee, after police broke up a street meeting jointly held by APU and MLPR. The meeting was held on July 25 to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Puerto Rico.

Witnesses state that water-bombs and rocks were hurled at speakers from nearby roofs, that police ignored appeals to stop these provocations, that police were observed, in fact, conversing with one of the main provocateurs beforehand. Then when hostile elements in the crowd attacked the last speaker, witnesses report, the police moved in to club the nationalists rather than to defend them from their assailants.

Suarez, who was left lying unconscious, was taken by his comrades to the Flower Hospital where he was given first aid, stitched up, and then dismissed. Later he developed symptoms of serious injury and was taken to the Knickerbocker Hospital, where he remained in critical condition for nearly a month, needing ten pints of blood and 24-hour nursing attention.

The committee is raising funds to meet the considerable expenses. It has retained a lawyer, Abraham Unger, and is collecting evidence to bring a case against the police responsible for the brutality. Contributions may be sent to the Comité pro Defensa Andres Suarez, c/o Zoraida Collazo, Secretary, 1470 Amsterdam Avenue, Apt. 12-L, New York, N.Y. 100027.

## SWP in Michigan Files for '64 Ballot

DETROIT — With a second filing of petitions Aug. 12, the Socialist Workers Party has been assured a place on the 1964 ballot in Michigan.

An initial filing of 17,306 voters' signatures July 15 brought a favorable response from the Director of Elections in Lansing. The additional filing of 4,608 signatures Aug. 12 brought the total to 21,914, almost 50 per cent more than is required by state law (14, 895), thus assuring the party of ballot rights.

Successful conclusion of the petition campaign opens the way for a vigorous national campaign by the SWP in the 1964 elections. Teams of energetic petitioners accomplished their goal in Michigan in eight weeks. The favorable response, received in record time, indicates a desire by voters to see a party in the field opposed to the Democrats and Republicans. Many people frankly expressed their appreciation that socialists would be running.