

THE MILITANT

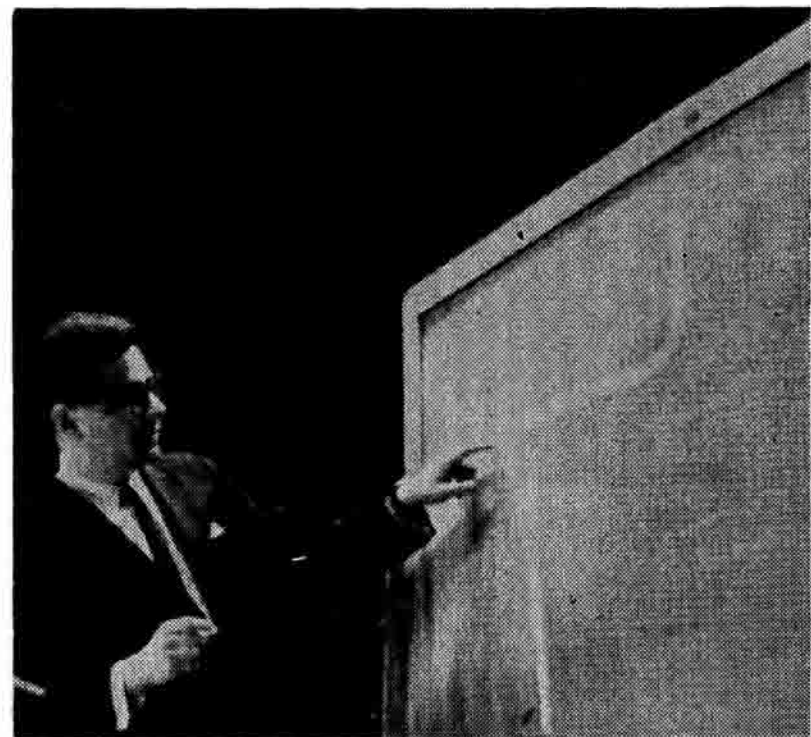
Published in the Interests of the Working People

Vol. 28 - No. 5

Monday, February 3, 1964

Price 10c

Warren Commission Ducks Main Issue Says Mark Lane



PUNCTURING POLICE STORY. Attorney Mark Lane uses blackboard to explain to Jan. 24 New York meeting how established facts refute story by Dallas police about a map found in Lee Oswald's room which was supposed to show planned trajectory of bullets.

By William Bundy

NEW YORK — Civil-liberties attorney Mark Lane, who has been retained by Mrs. Marguerite Oswald to defend her dead son, Lee H. Oswald, against the accusation that he assassinated President Kennedy, stated the case for the defense in a speech here Jan. 24.

Lane, a former New York State assemblyman and defense attorney in many civil-rights cases, addressed an overflow audience of 900 at a meeting in the Henry Hudson Hotel sponsored by the Militant Labor Forum. Lane thanked the Forum for affording him the opportunity to speak publicly for the first time on the Oswald case.

The 37-year-old Lane said some of his liberal friends had questioned the wisdom of his speaking before the Forum and of having his brief on the Oswald case published in the progressive weekly, the *National Guardian*. (The brief was sent to the special commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren which is investigating Kennedy's assassination.)

Lane said he had tried "every single liberal monthly" and every weekly magazine in the country, but none would touch the Oswald brief. But the *National Guardian* offered and he was glad to accept.

Regarding Oswald, Lane declared: "Never before in the history of civilization has a defendant been so publicly stripped of the rights to which a person accused of a crime is supposed to be entitled." The statements released by Dallas authorities convicted Oswald in the public mind, said Lane, and this resulted in his murder.

But on close examination the "evidence" in these statements, said Lane, proved to be contradictory. Some was absolutely false. And some of it was later withdrawn by the police themselves. The "airtight case" against Oswald has since been revised several times as new contradictions in

each successive FBI or police version are pointed out.

It is clear, the attorney declared, that the police agencies have been operating on the assumption of Oswald's guilt, have searched for or created "evidence" to bolster the preconceived theory of the crime, and have tended to ignore or discard evidence running counter to this theory.

This, said Lane, is all too common procedure with the FBI and other police agencies and such "evidence" must be tested in the "crucible of searching cross-examination" by counsel for the accused or the truth cannot be known.

Lane said it is now clear the Warren Commission does not intend to permit such cross-examination of the evidence presented to it by the FBI. He said he hoped that a "citizen's committee of inquiry" would be formed soon to campaign for a public hearing in

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The Press Speculations, As Usual, Were All Wet

Why Fidel Castro Went to the Soviet Union

By Steve Graham

All the speculation by the capitalist press and its State Department inspirers over Fidel Castro's recent trip to the Soviet Union only betrays the over-anxiousness of this country's rulers to see the Cuban Revolution sold to the highest bidder. There was similar unfounded speculation that Castro was lining up with Russia or China, or must be somebody's puppet, when he went to Russia last May.

But there was no need for all the speculation. The Cuban premier explained quite clearly the reasons for his trip in a major speech in Havana Jan. 24, the day after his return.

Central to the discussions with

Rights Fighters Press Battle To Abolish Atlanta Tokenism

By Fred Halstead

JAN. 28 — The drive of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee to cut through the hypocrisy of tokenism and make Atlanta, Georgia, an open city for Negroes is gaining momentum.

The campaign took a new turn Saturday, Jan. 25, when 400 students rallied on Morehouse College campus and then walked to the downtown area, divided up into flying squads, and tried to enter restaurants and hotels which had not desegregated. This was on the deadline day set by the coalition of civil-rights groups known as the Summit Conference — for major progress beyond the 15 or so establishments which had previously agreed to desegregate.

There has been no such progress. Indeed, most downtown public places still exclude Negroes. Only the Toddle House chain had been added to the 15, and that came about because SNCC opened its direct-action campaign last Dec. 21 with sit-ins at a Toddle House restaurant.

James Bevel, an organizer for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, whose workers have begun to join the SNCC campaign, told the Morehouse rally: "This is just a beginning, just to let the Mayor know what's going on."

About 250 of the Negroes were met downtown by 125 white-robed Ku Klux Klansmen who had been



James Forman

picketing those hotels which had desegregated. The Negroes chanted: "The KKK ain't what it used to be," and "KKK must go." Some Negroes "integrated" KKK lines, walking between the Klansman and singing freedom songs.

The next day 84 demonstrators were arrested; some in the lobby of a downtown motel; others on the sidewalk in front of Leb's restaurant.

More Groups Pledge Support To New York School Boycott

By Adam Knox

NEW YORK — A series of gestures by the New York Board of Education and the city government has failed to satisfy the Citywide Committee for Integrated Schools which is going ahead with its plans for a Feb. 3 boycott.

The Citywide Committee is coordinating the campaign of local chapters of the NAACP, CORE, the Parents' Workshop for Equality in New York City Schools and the Harlem Parents' Committee. They have been joined by another group, the East Harlem Schools Committee, which made stronger demands than the Citywide Committee originally had: It demanded a "crash program and timetable" to raise the quality of education in New York.

Leaflets passed out by Brooklyn CORE, demanding an end to "crowded classes, few or no textbooks, broken-down schools, prejudiced administrators," give an indication of the extent of the grievances. Some leaflets ask support in the picketing of the schools and in the preparatory work of building the boycott.

Others announce the "Freedom Schools" to be held Feb. 3.

Meanwhile, Rev. Milton A. Galamison, Citywide Committee chairman, declared, "We will not be sidetracked by promises." Fred Jones, NAACP state chairman, said, "We have had a series of bad faith experiences with the Board of Education and there is nothing at present which would make us call off the boycott."

Board of Education President James Donovan replied that the leaders of the boycott movement were "trying to unseat the present responsible Negro leadership." He declared "some extremists" have advocated "destroying the public school system."

Nevertheless, the Board of Education found itself directing Superintendent of Schools Gross Jan. 19 to establish joint school zones "wherever possible" to achieve better racial integration. Under this plan, two elementary schools with different racial compositions are "paired" for integration purposes.

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A crowd of some 1,000 whites watched as uniformed cops arrested the Negroes outside of Leb's. Some of the whites yelled "Kill'em! Kill'em!" SNCC Executive Secretary James Forman clung to a patrol wagon when arrested and the cops had to pry him loose to get him inside.

Later that evening, a number of students tried to get in the door at Leb's and were met by "bouncers," one of whom swung a padded chain as a weapon. Four Negro girls, one cop and one "bouncer" were injured.

The same day, a discussion was held for the benefit of members of a UN panel on human rights which was on a two-day visit to Atlanta to study race relations. Dick Gregory, who participated in the demonstrations, showed up at the discussion and enlightened the panel members.

Came On Invitation

The UN group had come to Atlanta on invitation of Morris Abram, a former Atlanta lawyer, who is now U.S. representative to the UN subcommittee on prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities. Abram had asked SNCC chairman John Lewis to call off the demonstrations while the group was in Atlanta. Lewis declined to do so.

One of the UN group was Judge Mohammed Mudawi of the Sudan. His comment upon leaving Atlanta was: "You have big problems."

Another 116 arrests were made Jan. 27 in three demonstrations, including one outside Leb's restaurant. None of the demonstrators would give his or her name and thus they stayed in jail. A picket line marched around the jail that night as demonstrators shouted "Freedom Now!" and those inside shouted the same back.

On Jan. 28, Mayor Ivan Allen Jr. invited SNCC leaders James Forman and John Lewis to a meeting scheduled for Jan. 29 of prominent whites and other Negro leaders at city hall. The demonstrations, however, continued and the number of persons jailed has reportedly risen above 350.

Young Leader Jailed

JAN 29 — As leaders of the anti-segregation protests in Atlanta prepared to meet with Mayor Ivan Allen Jr. and a group of prominent whites at the Mayor's request, the newly announced coordinator of the protest movement's Atlanta Direct Action Project was arrested reportedly on a federal charge.

The coordinator, Miss Prathia Hall, is a field worker for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Word has not yet been received as to the nature of the charges against her.

the basis of world market prices. "Then it became necessary to find a solution to all these problems, which we had discussed with comrade Khrushchev on our first visit to the Soviet Union [last May]. The sugar harvest was in full swing and the solution of this problem was imperative."

"We suggested," Castro said, explaining the Cuban position, "that we would prefer to establish a fixed price, a stable price, and a long-term agreement for the sale of our sugar, that this would be much more convenient for us than to receive high prices now . . ."

"In the first place it was unfair to charge the Soviet Union these temporary market prices. Second-

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HEARING ON MEDICARE BILL

The Need and the Fear Are Dire

By Marvel Scholl

The House Ways and Means Committee closed its five-day hearings on the King-Anderson Medicare bill Jan. 25, still split 15 to 11 against allowing it onto the floor for debate.

The King-Anderson Medicare bill would provide limited hospitalization and nursing-home care for persons over 65. It would be financed by an additional one-quarter of one-percent social-security tax on both workers and employers.

Testifying against the bill were spokesmen of the American Medical Association, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Manufacturers Association, the National Restaurant Association, private insurance firms, and the American Farm Federation.

Supporters of the measure included Dr. Benjamin Spock, the famous baby specialist, Mayor Wagner of New York, and Wisconsin Governor John W. Reynolds.

Dr. Spock said children are often deprived of necessities when a family's savings are wiped out by paying medical expenses for grandparents. "I know from my own practice," he added, "young children may have to be deprived of music lessons or dental care or appropriate clothing. Money carefully set aside over many years can be used up in a few weeks." In favoring Medicare, Dr. Spock is in direct opposition to the AMA.

The AMA has recently come up with two new arguments against Medicare. One is that the workers would "revolt" against the added tax because there are some 10,000 aged people with incomes of \$200,000, and another 200,000 who get about \$20,000. The second is that young workers are opposed to financing medical care for today's retired old people.

While it is possible that a few of the wealthy old people might take advantage of a Medicare plan, it is rather hard to imagine a Rockefeller or a Dupont in a hospital ward between a retired postman and a retired coal miner! In England, under the National Health Service the wealthy classes still prefer to pay their hospital bills to preserve a greater measure of "privacy."

The second argument is even



Lyndon Johnson

more spurious. What worker does not realize that inevitably he too will be retired on about one-third his present income? And how many working-class families are footing major medical bills for aging parents, to the detriment of the health of themselves and their growing children?

Since the first bill for medical care under social security was introduced in 1937, this issue has been before Congress almost

constantly in various forms. The list of bills which died a-borning in either the House Ways and Means or the Rules Committee, and the testimony for and against them would — and does — fill several large volumes. But never has one of these bills reached the floor of the House for debate!

Yet the need of the great majority of the American people for an adequate health program makes good political ammunition for the double-talking politicians in campaign years. The late President Kennedy used it to the hilt and now President Johnson foreshadows his coming campaign speeches with the statement: "I have just begun to fight on this issue."

Smart money in Washington is on the majority in the House Ways and Means Committee keeping the King-Anderson Medicare bill off the House floor this session. If Johnson and the Democratic machine want to get the bill onto the floor they have just one month before the vote in the Ways and Means Committee to change the minds of at least two of the Democrats who have hitherto opposed the bill.

The real sentiment of America's 18 million old people, and their families was expressed by the remark of a 72-year-old woman overheard at the New York City public hearing: "You hear all the reasons why we need this help over and over but the need and the fear are so dire that you never get bored."

THEATER REVIEW

A Fine Langston Hughes Musical

JERICHO — JIM CROW. A Stella Holt Production of a play written by Langston Hughes. At the Sanctuary (143 W. 13th St.) in New York City. Directed by Alvin Ailey and William Hairston. Every Sat. and Sun. at 5:30 p.m. until Feb. 23.

The Negro liberation struggle is destined to inspire many stirring creations. Langston Hughes' "Jerico — Jim Crow" will be remembered as one. Written for the ever-wider audience feeling the motion of the Black Revolt, the song-play is built on the traditional spirituals plus the enthusiasm and the hope for real freedom in the present movement.

The greater part of the dramatization consists of a portrayal — through the songs of the black people's oppression — of the 400 years of slavery and second-class citizenship.

A musical backdrop and, at moments, roof-shaking volume are provided by a chorus of spirited Gospel Singers. Central figures are a young man, by name Nat-Turner Frederick-Douglass . . . James-Forman John-Lewis Jones, played by Gilbert Price; and a young woman, by name Harriet-Tubman Sojourner-Truth . . . Gloria-Richardson Smith, played by Hilda Harris. Also prominent are "Mama" and "Papa," who sing of the Freedom which they longed for as slaves, but which now, as freedmen, they cannot enjoy.

Price's rendition of "Is Massa Gwine to Sell Us Tomorrow" captures the torment that accompanied the breaking up of slave families when the master needed money. The players recall the underground railroad, the escapes through the swamps, and then the Civil War.

"Follow[ing] the Drinking Gourd" and rejoicing that "Slavery Chain Done Broke at Last," the ex-slaves find signs tacked over entrances to restaurants, toilets, movie-theatres: "For Whites Only," "Colored Entrance." Their rejoicing for Freedom is dramatically interrupted by the

appearance of the famed bedsheet boy, James R. Crow ("Mr. Jim").

Jim Crow details for them, using all the arguments of the racist handbook, why they "Better Leave Segregation Alone." He reappears from time to time as sheriff, preacher, and town bully.

Words are not enough to describe the top-quality performance by Gilbert Price in his singing of Langston Hughes' moving song "Freedom Land": It is the powerful affirmation of Negro youth to break through the bonds of the old society — "I'm young, I'm gonna look around."

Instead of slinking through the back streets and the alleyways for fear of incurring the wrath of the white-supremacists, the youth declare: "We're gonna move down the mainstreets!"

Organizer of Movement

The social content is not limited to raising spirits. The play also serves as an organizer of the movement. The Old Man speaks to the audience, urging them not to be just "Sunday Soldiers"; not to attend only benefit dances — but to participate in the day-to-day committee- and leg-work that organizes and pushes ahead the freedom movement; "not just this week, but next week; not just this month, but next month; not just this year, but next year and every year till freedom is won . . ."

Then we can look forward to the success of "The Battle of Old Jim Crow" . . . and the walls will come tumbling down.

Theodore Bikel, the noted folk singer, was present and spoke briefly, "There are only two races," he said, "The oppressors and the oppressed. As long as there is jailing or beating . . . let us know which side of the bars we stand on!"

The proceeds of the play will be divided among the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, the Congress of Racial Equality, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

—Jay Garnett

THE NATIONAL

PICKET LINE



A RECURRING SCENE. Pennsylvania miners carrying injured fellow worker from coal mine cave-in.

Mine safety was the subject of a resolution passed by a National Wage Policy Conference of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers union. It said: "U.S. metal and mineral mine operators ignored 57.2 per cent of 12,155 safety recommendations made by the U.S. Bureau of Mines in 1962 and early 1963."

This cynical disregard for safe working conditions is one of the reasons that more than 500 metal, mineral and coal miners were killed in mine accidents in 1963.

It might be hard for people to believe, but in this modern age, the conference still found it necessary to include the demand that profit-gouging mining companies should "be responsible to provide first aid and medical attention, ambulance service, and protective clothing where needed."

A wildcat strike by some 60 New York Times truckdrivers crippled the delivery of the paper's first edition Jan. 29. The strikers were protesting the suspension of driver George Fruschi, who had been charged with urging his fellow workers to ignore a company order to increase the number of bundles of papers to be loaded on trucks.

After three and one half hours, the members of the Newspaper and Mail Deliverers Union returned to work — but only after they were assured that Fruschi's suspension would be arbitrated.

A recent check of resolutions adopted by state and national AFL-CIO conventions revealed that 90 per cent of their goals were obtainable only through political action.

A favorite slur of anti-labor bigots is that unemployed workers would rather collect benefit checks than go out and look for jobs.

According to a recent report by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics however, just the opposite is true. The Bureau based its report on a survey of 9.6 million workers, 18 years of age, or over, who were out of work for at least five weeks during 1961. It said that all workers interviewed had tried a number of different ways to obtain jobs. In addition most of them indicated a willingness to try different kinds of work and even to take lower paying jobs in order to get back on a payroll.

The report concluded that the unemployed "cannot be regarded as personally responsible for their

own difficulties" or as being unwilling to accept jobs.

Six New York union officials were indicted Jan. 21 for conspiring to commit assault, coercion, injury to property and violations of the penal code dealing with malicious telephone calls, and damage and destruction of telephone lines.

Four of the defendants are officers of Local 1101 which recently voted to disaffiliate from the AFL-CIO Communications Workers of America and join the Teamsters. They are Henry Habel, Arthur McGovern, Kenneth Burkard, and Julio Rodriguez.

The other two defendants, Morgan Seifert and William Griffin, are organizers for the communications division of the Teamsters union.

District Attorney Frank S. Hogan gave a lurid account of plans of the alleged conspirators to blow up telephone manholes, cut and pour acid on cables, and destroy phone company underground installations. He admitted, however, that not one victim purportedly marked for assault had been injured, nor had there been any property damage.

Habel, president of Local 1101, said the charges "are completely baseless and there is no truth in them." He accused the CWA and the New York Telephone Company of attempting to create "an incident" that might interfere with the decision of rank-and-file members in voting whether to remain in the CWA or affiliate with the teamsters.

Rally for Minimum Wage Will Be Held in Harlem

A rally for the \$1.50-an-hour minimum wage will be held in New York City Sunday, Feb. 9, at the Salem Methodist Church, 129th and 7th Ave. at 3 p.m. Speakers will include A. Philip Randolph, James Farmer, national director of CORE, and Eugene T. Reed, chairman of the New York State Council of NAACP Branches.

Gov. Rockefeller has proposed another "study committee" on the question instead of proposing the minimum wage bill. The Citizen's Committee for a \$1.50 Minimum Hourly Wage in New York State, which is sponsoring the rally, has invited members of the state legislature and is kicking off its campaign to get the bill passed in 1964.

Weekly Calendar

CHICAGO

HOLLYWOOD—THE SUGAR-COATED PILL. Speaker, Evelyn Sell, contributor to The Militant and International Socialist Review. Fri., Feb. 7, 8 p.m. Debs Hall, 302 S. Canal St., Room 210. Aup. Friday Night Socialist Forum.

DETROIT

Discussion of Rev. Cleage's "Next Step for the Black Revolution." Speaker, Robert Himmel, Fri., Feb. 7, 8 p.m. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward. Aup. Friday Night Socialist Forum.

LOS ANGELES

Theodore Edwards of the Socialist Workers Party presents a Marxist view of the news in his bi-weekly radio commentary. Fri., Feb. 7, 6:45 p.m. KPFF-FM, 90.7 on your dial.

MINNEAPOLIS

Johnson and the Sinking Ship of State.—An analysis of the problems and prospects of the new administration. By Everett Luoma. Fri., Feb. 7, 8:30 p.m. 704 Hennepin Ave., Hall 240. Aup. Friday Night Socialist Forum.

NEW YORK

HOW CUBA BROKE THE U.S. EM-BARGO.—An analysis of Cuba's role in the world today. Speaker, Harry Ring, Militant staff writer. Fri., Feb. 7, 8:30 Aup. Militant Labor Forum.

FEB. 14—Robert Vernon on "Next Stage in the Negro Struggle."

DeBerry Urges Big Push For Decent Public Housing

The following is a statement by Clifton DeBerry, prepared for delivery to the New York City Council's Jan. 23 hearing on rent control. A thousand tenants, many of them Harlem rent strikers, demonstrated outside city hall before the hearing began. The session itself — with the tempers of landlords raised to fever pitch by the rent-strike movement — developed into the wildest hearing ever seen in the council chambers as landlords jeered tenant spokesmen and occasional physical blows were exchanged.

DeBerry never actually delivered his statement. Before his turn to speak came, he joined with a number of other spokesmen for the tenants' position in a boycott of the session. The walk-out was led by Jesse Grey, leader of the Harlem rent strike, after it became evident that the hall had been mainly filled with landlords while hundreds of tenants were kept outside behind police barricades.

DeBerry, who was a candidate for councilman-at-large from Brooklyn last November, was recently nominated as Socialist Workers Party candidate for President of the United States in the 1964 elections.

The landlords say that if rent control were removed, "private enterprise" would solve the housing shortage. This argument is absurd on the face of it. "Private enterprise" simply doesn't build low-rent housing in New York City — rent control or no rent control. Yet it is in this key area that the most terrible shortage exists. The U.S. Census Bureau says there are 222,000 substandard housing units in the city, units that should be replaced. All observers admit that a million New Yorkers are forced to live in slums. Due to overcrowding in the existing slums, the actual shortage of low-rent and moderate-rent housing units is estimated at between 325,000 and half a million.

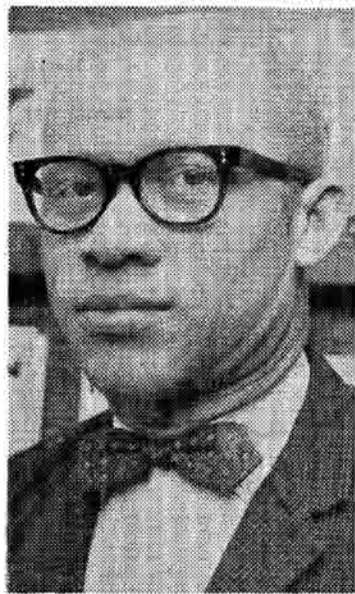
As long as this shortage exists, there is a housing emergency situation and rents are intolerably high on decontrolled units.

Need Massive Program

How is this shortage to be made up? Where are the half-million new low-rent and moderate-rent apartments to come from? They can only come from a massive public-housing program. But there is no such program. Luxury units are being built and some middle-income units are being built. The Democratic and Republican politicians point with hypocritical pride to the fact that some slum areas have been cleared to make way for these high-rent projects. But this has only aggravated the slum problem because the people who used to live in these areas can't afford the new high-rent housing and are forced to crowd into the remaining slum areas. The "slum-clearance" and "urban-renewal" programs are a bitter farce to the slum tenants.

Rents are being paid for the slums that people are forced to live in, but this money is never invested in low-rent housing. Precious little of it is spent on maintenance of the buildings, and the profits are never — I repeat, never — invested in new low-rent housing.

In all justice, all slum housing should be put into receivership. The rent money should be spent



Clifton DeBerry

exclusively on maintenance, repair, renovation and on new low-rent housing. In the occasional rare case where the owner of such a building has invested his hard-earned, honest savings and needs the income to live on, he should be compensated. No tears need be shed for the profits lost to speculators, banks and other agencies that hold mortgages on this type of housing. The slums — and the profits on them — are simply not necessary.

The city administration tries to cover up the real situation by telling us they have built much public low-rent housing and are building more. But the truth is: "too little and too late." Between 1934 and 1962, some 120,000 low-rent units were built. But the rate of this building has been decreasing. In 1962 it was only 3,400 units. At that rate it will take a century or more to make up the present shortage — aside from the question of replacing buildings as they deteriorate.

The fact is the Democratic city and Republican state administrations have no program whatever for solving this problem. The banks, speculators, and other big real-estate interests, which control these parties, like things the way they are. Their concern is simply to maintain and increase the high rate of return from the city's real estate.

Forcing Issue

The rent strikers, however, are forcing the issue. And the city will be a better place because of it. Incidentally, the rent strike gives the lie to the landlord's argument that the tenants themselves are responsible for the dirt and neglect. Any rent-strike organizer who has gone through these buildings talking up the strike knows that the tenants who respond most strongly, who join most willingly, are precisely those who are the best housekeepers, precisely those who are most indignant about the neglect and depression which slums produce, precisely those who have the most civic responsibility.

The rent strikers are taking drastic — though perfectly just and legal — action to force the owners and the government agencies to accept their responsibility to clean up the neglect. It is to be hoped that the movement gains such momentum as to force a change in the bank-controlled, Democratic-Republican monopoly of political power, and to force a massive program of low-rent public housing.

In the meantime rent control must be maintained and strengthened because by and large working people in this city are already paying more rent than they can afford. They just can't pay any more increases, and if they are asked to do so, they might be forced to strike on that issue as well as on the issues of maintenance and repairs.

Minorities Just Don't Trust Cops

Protests by New York's Puerto Rican community over the unsatisfactorily explained killing of two Puerto Ricans while in police custody occasioned some unusual plain talk in the press about the police.

The Jan. 15 *New York Times*, for example, cited the following remarks by Puerto Ricans:

"We are not citizens to the cops — we are spics. We pay their salaries for them to insult us and push us away from our own stoops."

"Negroes are lynched in the South; Puerto Ricans are shot here. It [the killing of two men in police custody] would not have happened to two white boys."

When the makers of the above statements were asked to give their names and addresses, one replied: "What do you think, we're crazy? The police will be banging at my door at two in the morning. They'll harass me here to hell."

Gilberto Gerena Valentin, head of a federation of Puerto Rican clubs, however, stated: "The police do not protect us. They try to keep us in line. They run the West Side like a plantation."

A parallel view of the police appeared in the Dec. 23 *Illustrated News*, a militant Negro bi-weekly published in Detroit. The following excerpts are from its column called "Smoke Rings."

"How about all the Negroes beat up on the street for such crimes as having a bent licence plate? ...

"Stand on any corner — 20 people will cross a street in a bunch against the red light — you guessed it. The cop fights his way through the crowd to single out the one Negro for a pedestrian ticket."

"With all the bad white drivers on the streets, why does the traffic court look like a NAACP convention? ...

"Often times they put the Negro under oath and let the cop tell his lies without the formality of the oath. Not that the oath would make a difference but it's the principle of the thing."

"We don't think that all cops are unjust, unfair, arrogant, ignorant and anti-Negro. But it is hard to find the other kind. Why does a cop have to search a Negro when his tail light burns out?"

"I'll never forget the case of the Negro who was beat almost to death Easter morning because he was standing on his front porch 'resisting arrest' ...

"I knew a cop once who was fair and honest. He enforced the law. He never called Negroes 'nigger' and he never stooped to a 'frame-up.' He has been walking a beat for 15 years — but can't seem to get a promotion. I guess he just don't 'fit in' somehow."

... New York School Boycott

(Continued from Page 1)

It was then reported that "integration leaders were caught off balance." Galamison, they said, at first hinted that integration leaders might regard the pronouncement sympathetically. "It represents the first new material we have had since August," he said.

But, he added, "there are countless people committed to this boycott and we are not going to distract them from their efforts by suggesting that the boycott will be called off."

On Jan. 20 he said, "this is no plan, and it's unfair to give people the impression that these guidelines constitute a real plan."

The Jan. 21 *New York Post*, however, editorialized: "These principles, if properly and promptly implemented ... should satisfy all reasonable men ..."

Three Publications Discuss Indiana "Subversion" Case

By George Saunders

In the recently-issued annual report of the American Civil Liberties Union for July 1962-June 1963, "the indictment of three students at the University of Indiana under the state's 1951 anti-subversive law, as the result of a campus meeting" is listed first under cases concerning "Academic Freedom — Student Rights."

Ralph Levitt, James Bingham and Tom Morgan, officers of the Young Socialist Alliance chapter at Indiana University in Bloomington, are facing the threat of two to six years in prison under a McCarthy-like prosecution. Their only "crime" was their consistent and outspoken advocacy of peace, civil rights and socialism, their daring to speak freely on such subjects.

Other publications have recently pointed out the importance of the case. The lead editorial in the Jan. 31 *Commonweal*, liberal Catholic weekly, describes some aspects of the Bloomington case as proof of the contention that McCarthyism is "still with us."

Honorary Chairman

The case is also attracting international attention. Nobel Prize-winner and noted British philosopher Bertrand Russell has lent his name as honorary chairman of the Committee to Aid the Bloomington Students, which is handling the defense. The December issue of a British labor paper, *Voice of the Unions*, described the witch-hunt against the Indiana students and urged its readers to contribute to their defense.

Increasing attention is being paid the case because it involves many crucial issues. It is the first time in American history that students in an academic environment have been prosecuted for expressing their ideas. It is a test of whether McCarthy-minded bigots can crush freedom of discussion and inquiry on our nation's campuses. As an attempt to punish the students for attending a meeting where a Negro YSA leader spoke on civil rights, the case smacks of racism.

As a test of the reactionary Indiana "Communism" Act — never before used in court — the case can play a key role in the removal of all such laws from the statute books of this country. Similar state laws have been ruled unconstitutional in recent years.

The defense, represented by the noted constitutional lawyer, Leonard B. Boudin, and trial lawyer, Daniel T. Taylor III, has filed a motion to quash the indictments on the grounds that the 1951 law is unconstitutional. A hearing on that motion and another to suppress evidence illegally acquired is expected March 20.

In the meantime, the defense



Paulann Groninger
Secretary, C.A.B.S.

has gained a victory on a legal point. Judge Nat U. Hill of Monroe Co. (Ind.) Circuit Court has ruled that Prosecutor Thomas A. Hoadley must present a bill of particulars on when, where and how the defendants allegedly violated the 1951 statute. The indictments specify only the days on which the defendants supposedly assembled to advocate the violent overthrow of the Indiana and federal governments.

Because of the significance of the case for academic freedom and basic civil liberties the defendants have already gained considerable support. The National Student Association and students at campuses from Harvard to Berkeley, from Chicago to Kentucky, Kansas and Arkansas, have defended the rights of Levitt, Bingham and Morgan. Hundreds of faculty members have become sponsors of the Committee to Aid the Bloomington Students.

Gain Sponsors

Prominent public figures in the fields of literature, the arts, journalism, religion, and the peace and civil rights movements have also become sponsors of CABS. Among them are Dr. Linus Pauling, two-time Nobel Prize winner; Murray Kempton of the *New Republic*; Ray Ginger, biographer of Eugene V. Debs; Mark Lane, former N. Y. assemblyman; Norman Mailer, author; Clancy Sigal, author; James Baldwin, author and civil rights spokesman; John Lewis, chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee; Rev. Albert B. Cleage Jr., Detroit civil rights leader; Rev. Donald Harrington; Rev. Willard Uphaus; A. J. Muste; and David Dellinger.

Contributions, messages of support, inquiries for further information or for details on forming a local CABS should be sent to the Committee to Aid the Bloomington Students, Box 213 Cooper Station, New York, N. Y. 10003.

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Business Manager: KAROLYN KERRY

Published weekly, except during July and August when published bi-weekly, by The Militant Publishing Ass'n., 116 University Pl., New York 3, N.Y. Phone CH 3-2140. Second-class postage paid at New York, N.Y. Subscription: \$3 a year; Canadian, \$3.50; foreign, \$4.50. Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent The Militant's views. These are expressed in editorials.

Vol. 28 - No. 5



Monday, February 3, 1964

BOOK REVIEW

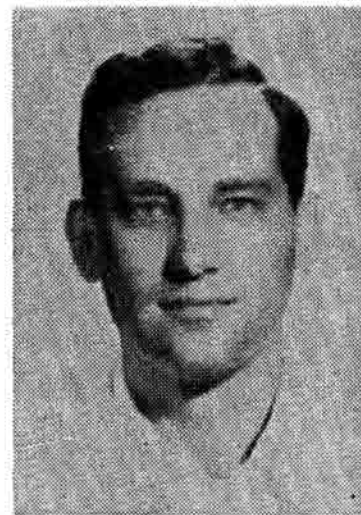
'The Invisible Latin America'

INVISIBLE LATIN AMERICA. By Samuel Shapiro. Boston: Beacon Press, 180 pp., \$3.95.

"On the sugar plantation of San Martin del Tabacal in Northern Argentina, for example, I discovered that only a handful of the 20,000 farm laborers employed at the peak of the harvest could read or write. The Mataco Indians who did slow-paced subsidiary work of clearing out irrigation ditches, burning the trash left after the harvest, cutting wood and hauling it by oxcart to the furnaces, and topping plants, were paid 15 cents an hour; their women, who did the planting and weeding, got nine cents. None of the children went to school, although the *ingenio* [sugar plantation] was legally required to provide one; when old enough, the children went to work for five cents an hour. With wages at these levels, the *patron* [owner] had understandably little interest in purchasing machinery or applying scientific methods to his operation.

"Sanitary conditions on this 100,000-acre estate were appalling . . . the Indians were given only heaps of bamboo, straw, and sugar cane stalks with which they constructed wretched little huts; the overseer told me that they preferred these . . .

"An even graver shortcoming was the company's failure to provide clean water for drinking and washing. The mill had an immense supply of pure water from deep wells for use in the refining process, but none of it was pumped to where the workers lived. On one lot the water supply came from a shallow uncovered well about 30 feet from a sewer-like irrigation ditch; on another, there was no pump at all and the Indians drank from the ditch itself. In the fields, under a



Dr. Samuel Shapiro

hot tropical sun, no drinking water was supplied, unless the Indians took the 'precaution' of bringing their own. Diseases spread by drinking polluted water naturally endemic; there had been no major epidemics, one exasperated government labor inspector told me, 'only because God is great.'

" . . . There were only four doctors, eight nurses and one ambulance to care for some 25,000 people, and the hospital was jammed from the beginning of the harvest to the end. The doctors explained that they found it unusual to examine an Indian without finding either intestinal trouble or venereal disease, but neither they nor the *patron* felt it was their task to wipe out these scourges. The general feeling seemed to be that the Indians did not mind getting sick and that, anyway, they would only get reinfected after a cure . . . two carpenters were kept busy full time making small coffins . . . Yet conditions at Tabacal were considered good in comparison with

those at the other 29 mills in Argentina; a government accountant who regularly visits them all assured me that, 'Tabacal should be placed on a pedestal, and used as a model.'

"Such conditions breed *fidelismo* . . . The Coya, Chorote, and Mataco Indians I interviewed (with difficulty — many of them knew no Spanish) did not recognize the Argentine flag and had never heard of President Frondizi but one of them solemnly assured me that 'Fidel Castro was a friend of the Indians.'

The above is a good sample both of the style and the content of *Invisible Latin America*. The book will undoubtedly awaken many an American reader to the reality of the southern part of our hemisphere. Although it is only 180 pages, it is an excellent, popular presentation of the overall economic and social situation. A great deal of valuable information and statistics is presented without in any way slowing down the author's fast-flowing exciting style.

Fired For Honesty

Dr. Shapiro is at present a visiting professor of history at Notre Dame. Prior to this he lost his teaching position at Michigan State University at Oakland because his outspokenness about what he saw in Cuba and about U.S. policy towards Cuba had subjected him to red-baiting by right-wing news media and state legislators. He wrote this book on the basis of travels in South America where he was a Fulbright scholar.

Though he is an honest and perceptive reporter and critical of U.S. policy, Shapiro is neither a Marxist nor *fidelista*. And though one may consequently find much of his political analysis faulty, this does not diminish the value of the essential information he presents. I therefore do not hesitate in recommending the book to all who are concerned about conditions prevailing in Latin America.

But he directs his comments about what should be done to the rulers of the U.S. Also when speaking of the policies and actions of U.S. millionaires, government officials, etc., he uses the pronouns "we" and "our." For instance, he feels that people are not aware of "how close we are to losing more of them like we lost Cuba." And of the Central Intelligence Agency's overthrow of Guatemala's democratic government in 1954, he writes: "even there we have achieved only an uneasy status quo resting on a brutal and incompetent dictatorship." Of course, the use of "we" and "our" is not unique to Shapiro but common to all those who, though critical of U.S. imperialist policy, have not reached a position of irreconcilable opposition to the capitalist class responsible for it.

—Peter Camejo

...Lane on the Oswald Case

(Continued from Page 1)

which Oswald is represented by counsel.

Lane described the six panels appointed by the Warren Commission. They will study: 1) Oswald's actions on Nov. 22; 2) His background; 3) His experience in the Marines and the Soviet Union; 4) Oswald's murder; 5) The background of Jack Ruby, charged with killing Oswald; and 6) Measures by the Secret Service, the FBI and the Dallas police to protect President Kennedy.

"They left out one panel," said Lane, "and that is: Who killed the president of the United States?"

Clearly, he said, the Warren Commission appears to be operating under the FBI's assumption that Oswald is guilty, before it has made its study.

Among the evidence, which Lane said the FBI has ignored, is the fact that a number of eyewitnesses to the assassination were quoted by the *Dallas Morning News* the day after the event. These witnesses state they heard the shots coming, not from the building where Oswald was alleged to have been, but from the overpass toward which the president's car was headed. Though the names of four of these eyewitnesses were published by the paper, said Lane, the FBI has not questioned them.

A judge would throw out of court a confession by a person held incommunicado for 36 hours, Lane said. Yet the Warren Commission is preparing to take "conclusive" testimony from Oswald's wife who was held incommunicado for eight weeks. The FBI might now be able to write "the latest text on brainwashing," he commented.

Following Lane's presentation, the chairman of the meeting, Militant staff writer Harry Ring, announced that an ad for the meet-

ing had been refused by the "liberal" *New York Post*. The audience — which was broad in its political range and which included many young people — expressed indignation by hissing. Ring said unsuccessful efforts had been made to get the *Post* to state its reasons for the rejection. The *New York Times*, the *Nation*, the *National Guardian* and the *Village Voice* all ran the ad.

During the extensive question period Lane was asked if he thought Oswald was innocent. The attorney said he didn't know and that he personally had no theory of the assassination as yet. He said the evidence against Oswald so far presented was inconclusive and that his examination of the police and FBI statements and actions, and his own trips to Dallas have raised many new doubts.

Questions were asked about the possibility of Oswald's having been a U.S. intelligence agent of some sort. Lane said Oswald's mother has publicly stated that she thinks her son was such an agent. Lane said that on the basis of his investigations so far "this is not a conclusion one must reach inescapably." There is evidence which tends in that direction, said Lane, and he intends to sift it carefully.

Several questions were asked about Oswald's alleged killing of Dallas policeman J.D. Tippitt just before his arrest. "I don't assume Oswald did kill Tippitt," said Lane. He pointed out that different Dallas reports had Tippitt being killed in nine different places.

Lane announced that Oswald's mother would come to New York to speak at a meeting at Town Hall Feb. 18. The meeting, sponsored by the *National Guardian*, will also feature Lane, Staughton Lynd, and Professor David Haber.

Inhumanity Toward Cuban People

The United States government has denied a request by Casa Cuba, Inc., a New York social club of persons of Latin American origin or extraction, for an export license to send used clothes and shoes to hurricane victims in Cuba. This was the second such denial; the first was in reply to a permit request by the Emergency Committee for Disaster Relief to Cuba for a powdered milk shipment.

Casa Cuba on Jan. 22 appealed the decision to the U.S. Department of Commerce Appeals Board. The Emergency Committee appealed Jan. 6.

The government claims that such aid to the Cuban hurricane victims is "contrary to the national interest." Casa Cuba's appeal says: "Certainly our government cannot in honesty maintain that used clothes and shoes are militarily strategic materials which we need or that the Cuban people can use in military maneuvers against the U.S."

Casa Cuba pointed out Adlai Stevenson's statement before the UN General Assembly last Oct. 7 expressing "deepest sympathy of the government of the United States" to the hurricane-battered Cuban people. Fidel Castro, at the time, held these to be credible tears and announced that the Revolution would accept American aid gladly but only from non-governmental sources. His assessment of official U.S. "sympathy" is unhappily vindicated again by Washington's ruling in the present case.

In October Cuba was ravaged by the worst hurricane in its history. Innumerable dwellings were leveled to the ground or swept away by flood waters; thousands had to be evacuated; more than 1,000 lives were lost; half of the island's food crops were destroyed.

In the face of this suffering the refusal to permit shipment of powdered milk and used clothing and shoes to the victims reveals in all its cruelty the inhumane character of present U.S. policy towards the Cuban people.

Work of "Devil"?

Ruling classes and governments which stand only to lose by explaining the real causes of domestic unrest or popular explosions in their colonies or semi-colonies frequently have recourse to the devil theory.

According to this theory unions are organized or strikes fomented by "outside agitators." If the troubles are abroad, then the culprits can still be "outside agitators." They are simply from outside the particular foreign area involved. The devils always originate outside, but if there is incontestable proof they are native to the spot, then they undoubtedly got their training outside — in Russia, China or Cuba, for example.

As anyone who reads the U.S. press knows, "Castro agents" are on the prowl everywhere, even in far-off Zanzibar.

Why go into any studies about the disastrous effects of U.S. imperialism on Latin America, the iniquities of the ruling classes there, the sell-out to the oil companies by a Betancourt, the history of the Panama Canal and other such long-hair stuff, when Washington and the capitalist press has such a pat explanation as "Cuban agents?"

The unrest in Venezuela? Why there was that arms cache (but who cached it?) and the students there are known to be pro-Cuba!

The trouble in Panama? Why Secretary of Army Cyrus Vance, sent down there post-haste by President Johnson, returned to explain that Panamanian police had nabbed ten "Castro agents" with an imposing variety of arms. Hardly reported in the U.S. press was the reply on Jan. 14 of Panama's Foreign Minister. Secretary Vance's claims about arrested Cuban agents, he said, were "news to us" and "frankly we don't know what he was talking about."

Local Directory

BOSTON. Boston Labor Forum, 295 Huntington Ave., Room 200.

CHICAGO. Socialist Workers Party and bookstore, 302 South Canal St., Room 210. WE 9-5044.

CLEVELAND. Eugene V. Debs Hall, Room 23, 5927 Euclid Ave., Cleveland 3, Ohio.

DENVER. Militant Labor Forum, Telephone 523-2779.

DETROIT. Eugene V. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward. Temple 1-6135.

LOS ANGELES. Socialist Workers Party, 1702 East Fourth St. AN 9-4953 or WE 5-9238. Open 12 noon to 5 p.m. daily and Saturday.

MILWAUKEE. 150 E. Juneau Ave.

MINNEAPOLIS. Socialist Workers Party and Labor Book Store, 704 Hennepin Ave., Hall 340. Federal 2-7781. Open 1 to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

NEWARK. Newark Labor Forum, Box 361, Newark, New Jersey.

NEW YORK CITY. Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Place, AL 5-7832.

OAKLAND-BERKELEY. Labor Book Shop and Socialist Workers Party, 563 18th St., Oakland 12, Calif. TE 6-2077. If no answer call 261-5642.

PHILADELPHIA. Militant Labor Forum and Socialist Workers Party, P.O. Box 8412, Philadelphia 1, Pa.

SAN FRANCISCO. Militant Labor Forum meets second and fourth Fridays at Pioneer Book Store, 1488 Fulton St. WE 1-9987.

ST. LOUIS. Phone Main 1-2609. Ask for Dick Clarke.

SAN DIEGO. San Diego Labor Forum, P.O. Box 1581, San Diego 12, Calif. For labor and socialist books, Sign of the Sun Books, 4705 College Ave.

SEATTLE. 3815 5th N.E. Library, book store. Open 12 noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays. Phone ME 2-7440.

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In Commemoration of Negro History Week

A Gift Offer to Our Subscribers

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By Carolyn Kerry

This is the month in which Negro History Week is celebrated. Special meetings and observances will be devoted to telling some of the truth about the centuries-long struggle of the Negro people.

In its celebration of Negro History, *The Militant* is making a special gift offer throughout February. The offer is an 8 x 10 inch photographic enlargement, suitable for framing, of any of the pictures appearing on this page. These pictures have been carefully chosen. They show these great men and women at the height of their powers, not — as so many illustrations do — as elderly people.

Nat Turner. Here is a portrait of the leader of this country's most famous slave revolt. Turner's uprising in Virginia in 1831 was crushed by superior numbers and weapons. The insurgent slaves were ruthlessly massacred and Nat Turner was hanged. This drawing (photography had not yet been invented) is from the famous Schomburg Collection of Negro literature and art.

Sojourner Truth. She was born a slave in New York in 1797. Her five children were taken from her and sold. To regain a five-year-old son illegally taken from her and sent to Alabama, she engaged in a heroic and successful court battle. In the 1840's and 50s she became famous on the platforms of the anti-slavery and women's-rights movement. Her originality of thought and expression and her unique personality made her one of the most remarkable figures in U.S. history.

Frederick Douglass. The photograph was made before the Civil War. By then Douglass was already internationally famous as one of the most powerful orators and writers of the anti-slavery movement. Audiences were astounded that a man of such eloquence, brilliance and wit was a self-educated, runaway slave. Douglass not only gave irrefutable personal testimony about slavery but was a living example of the potentialities of the black man. Inside the Abolitionist movement he claimed for the Negro people a role of leadership and decision-making.

Harriet Tubman. As a young woman she was a field hand and developed the great strength which later served her so well. Escaping in 1849, she soon became the most famous conductor on the Underground Railway, the slaves' escape route. She earned the title "Moses" of her people by going South time and again, leading more than 300 slaves to freedom.

How can you get your choice of these pictures? During February anyone sending in a one-year subscription (\$3) or renewal of an existing subscription (\$3) will receive an 8 x 10 enlargement of whichever of these pictures he or she asks for. Your subscription does not have to expire this month to renew it now. Send in a \$3 renewal and your present subscription will be extended a year.

A combination subscription or renewal (\$5) to both *The Militant* and the *International Socialist Review* for one year entitles you to enlargements of all four pictures.

Remember this offer is good only during February. Mail your sub today and get your Negro History picture(s) by return mail.



Sojourner Truth



Frederick Douglass



Nat Turner



Harriet Tubman

THE MILITANT

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WHAT THE U.S. PRESS DIDN'T PRINT

A Mexican Report on Canal Zone Battle

First U.S. newspaper accounts of the fighting in Panama were very confused and contradictory. Subsequent dispatches failed to clarify matters. Symbolic, perhaps, were the wirephotos carried by most U.S. newspapers Jan. 18. These showed University of Panama students demonstrating with large placards but neglected to explain what the placards said. Only those who read Spanish could realize that they denounced the very wire services transmitting the photos. Thus one made the initials UPI into "United Infamous Journalists"; another made AP into "Anti-Panama."

As a sample of what the rest of the world read, we translate the following coherent and vivid account from a dispatch by Leopoldo Aragon in the Mexico City daily, *El Dia*, of Jan. 14.

"The Panamanian nation today buried 12 of its 27 dead, who fell under North American bullets. Panama today is caught up with indignation and with pride over its dead and its 300 wounded. Since last Thursday Panama waged an unequal struggle with the might of the United States in the long anti-imperialist struggle

"The terrible events that occurred here have great importance for Latin America and countries whose sovereignty is compromised by strong nations. A literally unarmed people has said, 'Enough of our blood!' and has declared its intention of rebelling as it deems necessary to finish with a totally anachronistic situation going back to 1903...

"In the afternoon of Thursday, Jan. 9, some 200 students of the National Institute entered the Canal Zone to protest the fact that a secondary school had raised only

the North American flag, violating the agreement to raise it together with the Panamanian. They brought their own flag so that it could be raised.

"The North American police of the Canal Zone intercepted them and the boys agreed that a delegation of five of them should go up to the flag pole of the school to sing their national anthem and display their ensign. While they were singing, the North American students poked fun at them and began singing their anthem. The Panamanian students were then invited by the police to get going. They had a discussion with the police, as can be seen in newsreels, and the North American students then surrounded the delegation of five.

"The newsreel shows how the police proceeded to push the Panamanian youths and the menacing gestures of the Yankee students. The 200 ran to join their comrades and then the police attacked the whole group, throwing tear gas. Their feelings aroused, the boys broke lamps and threw chunks of garbage, spreading out in various directions, trying to plant small Panamanian flags. Then the police began shooting, wounding several.

The Angry Crowd

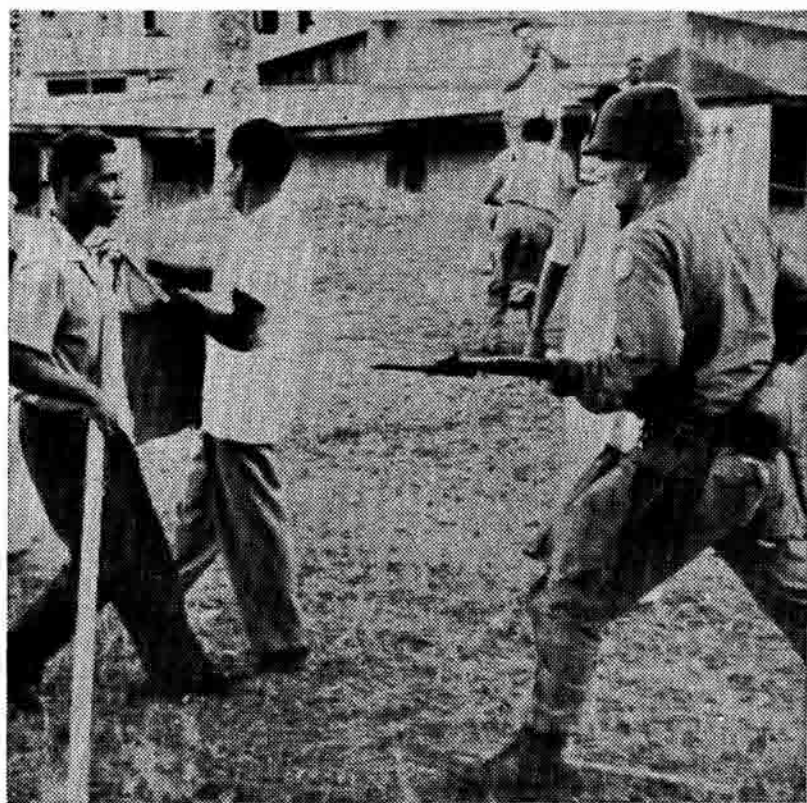
"The shots and the wounds transformed the group into an angry crowd chased by the police of the Zone, who succeeded in driving them out, but since the Zone is separated from Panama by a painted line in Fourth of July Avenue, rebaptized Kennedy Avenue, the youths ran along it shouting, attracting people who had heard the shots. They joined up, forming a group of some 3,000 persons who entered or tried to enter the Zone carrying flags,

along the sector of the avenue passing in front of the Legislative Palace.

"The police opened fire indiscriminately, causing deaths and wounds. The army then showed up, shooting and throwing tear gas and a still more irritating product. The population of Panama seethed with indignation and joined the crowd by the thousands. The struggle went on throughout the night and Friday morning. The people charged, literally with shirts unbuttoned, baring their breasts to the North American bullets. Waves of them advanced and fell back before the gunfire. armored caterpillar trucks carrying heavy machine guns, resembling tanks, appeared at the three principal points of entry. At the street openings where there were considerable open areas, the troops threw up barriers of barbed wire, and posted sharpshooters in various tall buildings, mainly in the old Tivoli hotel and a convent from which a deadly cross-fire could be set up.

"The list of wounded and dead continued to grow and the radio and television reported the facts. The people poured into the streets to destroy any North American vehicles they could find (North American automobiles carry Canal Zone plates which are quite different from the Panamanian and thus easily identifiable) and to burn and destroy anything that might be North American.

"The building of the USIS, the United States propaganda agency, was reduced to a heap of ashes; the Chase National Bank was left without a single unbroken window; the glass blocks of the front of the Electric Company were destroyed, broken with hammers and picks; the futuristic building of



REPEAT PERFORMANCE. This scene occurred at the Panama Canal Zone on Nov. 29, 1959. U.S. soldiers attacked unarmed Panamanian youth who sought to plant their country's flag in the zone. The same issue touched off recent attack on Panamanians by U.S. forces.

the Panamerican Airways and two more buildings located between the Tivoli and the convent on the side of the Panamanian sidewalk of Fourth of July Avenue, and dozens of other North American properties, were also set on fire.

"The crowds were on the point of capturing the North American embassy, the numerous windows of which were shattered. The National Guard was readied to prevent it from being taken by assault. The armored trucks made sallies into Panamanian territory, crossing the line, in order to push back the Panamanian throng, the armed forces of the United States thus violating sovereign Panamanian territory. The soldiers did not confine themselves to firing on the nearest people, but splashed bullets over the entire plaza of the Legislative Palace and beyond, since wounded and dead were found 3,000 meters beyond the dividing line...

On Friday morning, "North American planes soon appeared with powerful loudspeakers demanding that the Panamanians get behind the dividing line. This order produced an effect totally the opposite of the one expected. 'They're not going to tell us that... where we can or cannot be in our own home,' was the reply, and all along Fourth of July Avenue a sea of people congregated. In

the plaza of the Legislative Palace there were as many as 20,000 people, I have been told.

"And it was extraordinary to see 20,000 people throw themselves to the ground when there were bursts of machine-gun fire and get up and advance as soon as they ceased. 'They were stopping those that fell but the rest of us moved forward yelling at the Gringos what we thought of them.'

"At noon and throughout the afternoon jet planes buzzed the roofs of houses, breaking the sound barrier, and then giving the penetrating roar of their motors. They sought intimidation, but once again the effect was the reverse. With greater passion people charged the points of invasion.

"The Legislative Palace was a heap of glass smashed by thousands of machine-gun bullets. 'We want to dislodge the sharpshooters,' explained General Andrew O'Meara, absolute dictator of the Canal Zone, where martial law had been declared the night before. The North American army also barred all traffic on the highway crossing the isthmus and linking Panama on the Pacific with the City of Colon on the Atlantic, and they barred passage from one side of the national territory to the other across the so-called Bridge of the Americas."

World Events

China to Aid Angolans

Holden Roberto, head of the Angolan government-in-exile, announced in Leopoldville, Congo, on Jan. 3 that he would accept aid from China and "other Communist countries" in the fight to free Angola from Portuguese rule.

Mr. Roberto, long considered a political moderate with essentially pro-Western views, is expected to visit Peking soon. Trips to Moscow and possibly Havana may follow.

Explaining his firm intention to accept aid from the non-capitalist countries, Roberto said: "Until now we have kept out of the cold war and within the framework of African politics. We are now at a point where a radical change of policy is imperative for us to make headway in our struggle."

"I came to the conclusion," he continued, "that the Western countries are hypocritical. They help our enemies. While paying lip service to self-determination,

the United States supplies its North Atlantic treaty ally, Portugal, with arms used to kill us."

Roberto further explained his view: "With our present support we could go on fighting for another 20 years. In the end there would be no one left to liberate. Only the Communists can give us what we need. None of the African countries produce arms; they have to buy them themselves. It would be a betrayal of the suffering Angolan people not to turn to those who can help."

Militarism in W. Germany

A West German paratroop corporal was sentenced to nine months on Jan. 22 for kicking and beating recruits who collapsed during a forced march early last year.

Eight other noncommissioned officers of the paratroop company were sentenced for shorter terms on similar charges. Two noncoms were let off.

The proceedings began when a recruit died last summer follow-

ing a forced march. The case has raised questions about the revival of Prussian and Nazi-type militarism, but Defense Minister Kai Uwe von Hassel insists there is nothing wrong with the training system in the West German armed forces.

Ceylon Closed to A-Arms

Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of Ceylon, has announced her government will not permit vessels and aircraft that carry nuclear weapons or are equipped for them, to land in Ceylon. The Ceylonese prime minister also appealed to the U.S. not to send naval vessels with nuclear capacity into the Indian Ocean.

Election Issue in Chile

The nationalization of U.S.-owned copper mines, Chile's chief natural resource, figures as a chief issue in this year's election campaign. Sen. Salvador Allende, candidate of FRAP, the Socialist-Communist alliance, has pledged to nationalize the mines with long-term, low-interest compensation. The Kennecott Copper Corp. has \$100 million invested in the El Teniente mine, from which it derives 15% of its yearly profits. The Anaconda Corp. has a \$400 million investment from which it derives 75% of its yearly profits.

French Interest in Asia

Basic material interests behind French diplomatic maneuvering in Southeast Asia were revealed recently by René Sanson, chairman of France's Permanent Committee on Fairs and Exhibitions Abroad. Sanson announced that France would make a maximum effort to increase exports to Southeast Asia. He also said an exhibition in Manila Feb. 8-23 would have as its purpose to attract French exporters to the area as an alternative to the West European market.

... Castro's Trip to the USSR

(Continued from Page 1)

ly, it was not either secure or convenient for us. What would happen when the market price of sugar came down to three cents? Would we then ask the Soviet Union to pay us eight cents? It would be absurd for us to make any such suggestions in such circumstances."

Castro described the Soviet leaders' doubts, that, for instance, the capitalist press would accuse them of buying Cuban sugar below world prices. In the end, however, Castro related, the Soviet leaders "left the question in our hands, for us to decide."

The Cuban leader explained the tremendous advantages for Cuba in the new agreement, how it fits into the policy of expanding sugar production to earn foreign exchange, and how it permits Cuba to trade to her own advantage in the rest of the world by assuring the bulk of her crop a stable market. In fact, it is Cuba's advantageous position in this respect that has enabled her already to attract European and other trade despite the embargo.

Castro's statements on Panama in the same speech dispel any

fears that he might have watered down revolutionary principles for a secure economic position. He declared full support to Panama and its right, if it so wished, to renegotiate or cancel the 1903 treaty giving the Canal Zone to the U.S. He also urged all Latin American nations to offer economic aid collectively to Panama to counteract the cut-off of U.S. aid. He declared Cuba's willingness to contribute to a joint fund.

"Furthermore," he said, "if collective aid is not offered to Panama, Cuba is ready unilaterally to help Panama [without any conditions], even though such a course would entail sacrifice for us."

Castro's optimistic and self-confident report on Cuba's position in the wake of the Soviet agreement was indirectly confirmed in the U.S. press. Tad Szulc, writing in the Jan. 28 N.Y. Times, reported that "high Administration officials say that for all practical purposes the U.S. blockade of Cuba has failed," and that "many Government experts" privately accept "the spreading belief that the Castro regime is here to stay."

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Letters From Our Readers

[This column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of general interest to our readers. Please keep your letters under 400 words. Writers' initials will be used, names being withheld unless authorization is given for use.]

New Reader

Matawany, Pa.

I have read your sample copy of *The Militant* with great interest. It certainly is heartening to know that there are some papers who stand up and defy the cap-

italism's so-called free press which only prints half-truths and distortions to keep their own system in existence by bamboozling the general public.

Being out of work at the present time, I am going to take you up on your special introductory offer. Later I will send \$3 and subscribe for a year.

J.A.B.

Sporty Looking, Too

Baltimore, Md.

Have you seen the new foreign car? It's called a *Studebaker*!

A.R.K.

War and Natural Man

Oxford, Pa.

Until recent years all the people of Europe were agreed that their culture was the highest in the world, and if wars still raged it was because it was natural for men to fight. They knew that their ancestors had been savages, so it was assumed that mankind improved by becoming civilized.

But when America was discovered people were found there who were living in peace and harmony with no government to keep them in order. That got some people to thinking that war is unnatural and that it should be possible for all men to live in peace. These enthusiasts were laughed at and their ideas were ignored.

But of recent years information has been collected about many groups of people who have been living in peace scattered around the world, and all these people are food gatherers, getting their living by what they can find or catch, having never learned food production. They belong to different races, but their habits are so much alike that a description of one will do for all.

They live in groups of monogamous families, bound together by natural affection, co-operating in hunting and sharing what they catch. They are naked and are not ashamed. They build no houses. They wander about, each group in its own hunting ground. They are hospitable to strangers, and the arts of toolmaking that they have learned are spread from one group to another. As their difference from other people depends on the arts of food production, it is evident that they are examples of the way all mankind lived before food production was learned. They are truly paleolithic.

Paleolithic man had no weapons of war, and have left no evidence that they were any different from the Pygmies, Punans, Andaman islanders and the other groups which are their modern representatives.

The wars, slavery, class distinctions and other miseries that have disgraced civilization cannot be blamed on original sin, but upon the institutions, man made, that have resulted from the production of wealth. It is theoretically possible, to remove the threat of war by changing our institutions, particularly the private ownership of the earth by a few, which makes the non-owners their servants, lucky to get a chance to work for the owners.

Archie Craig

Aid for Spanish Refugees

New York, N.Y.

"There has never been anything in modern history like the recent flight of the Catalan army and civilian population into France." These lines were written 25 years ago (by Genet in a letter from

Southern France to *The New Yorker*). Many historians have recognized in the Spanish Civil War the ominous dress rehearsal for the Second World War which Hitler unleashed less than six months after its conclusion. Many of the techniques of modern warfare, such as saturation bombing and the forced exodus of civilian populations, were first tried out in Spain where Franco's army with the help of German Nazis and Italian Fascists fought and defeated the legitimate forces of the Spanish Republic.

What Genet had been watching in Perpignan was the result of the fall of Barcelona on Jan. 26, 1939. The amazing thing that happened was that not only the members of the government and the leaders of the parties, but the whole defeated army of the Republic decided to leave their country. In one gigantic stream — with their families, their cows and their horses — four or five hundred thousand people surged toward the Pyrenees and crossed into France. After a few weeks of chaos, the French government interned an entire foreign army as "prisoners" — of a war in which France had never been engaged. No doubt, France feared this was only a beginning, as indeed it would have been if the units of the Republican army, still embattled around Madrid, had been able to fight their way to the French border. France hoped that the harsher the treatment

meted out, the sooner the "madness" would end, that the new Fascist government would behave "normally" and offer an amnesty, that the freedom fighters would sober up and go home. But things in Europe were not normal any longer, as France was to learn only a few months later. The Spanish soldiers and their families were still behind barbed wire when the Nazis occupied France. And most of the Spanish refugees who left their country in defiance of Fascism and tyranny, never went home.

They are still in France, those who survived Hitler's camps, starvation, the war, the underground, forced labor. There are still 100,000 of them in France today — a fact most of us have forgotten. May I remind you that 10,000 among them need your help because many are old and suffering from diseases brought on by 25 years of wars and deprivation. Our organization, Spanish Refugee Aid, whose Honorary Chairmen are Pablo Casals and Salvador de Madariaga, has been helping them survive for the past eleven years. We hope that you will join us and give your hand to these refugees who sacrificed so much in their fight for a free Spain.

Hannah Arendt, Chairman
Spanish Refugee Aid
80 East 11th St.,
New York 3, N. Y.

Declares Stand

Orange, Calif.

I once wrote a letter to the editor of this paper and asked that my full name be used.

The reason for that is because I believe that if we are ever to have our civil rights and liberties we have to go forward unafraid, everybody doing their part.

I am an ex-convict. That is not easy to write. It is nothing to be proud of, but somebody has to step forward and let it be known that we, like all discriminated-against minorities want our civil rights, namely, the franchise. [Those who serve more than a year in a federal penitentiary lose their right to vote. Ep.]

I know that anonymous political writing is a protected aspect of the First Amendment. I do not intend to use it. I want my civil rights and I am not going to bury my head and expect somebody else to get them for me. I, for one, welcome all support.

Carl A. Gregory

Rent Strike Coverage

Detroit, Mich.

I enjoyed reading your articles on the New York rent strike. Your paper was the only paper I read covering the whole story.

C.A.
14 Years Old

It Was Reported in the Press

'Free World' Stalwart — The Guatemalan government has brought criminal charges against ex-dictator Ydigoras, now resident in Miami. It charged that Ydigoras, who arranged with the U.S. for the use of Guatemalan territory for the 1961 invasion of Cuba, had cheated the state of more than \$3 million in sales of government-owned coffee and sugar plantations to private parties. His extradition will be sought.

Careless Love? — We thought CORE had abandoned its basic philosophy when we spotted a headline in Denver's weekly Negro paper, the *Blade*, which read: "Love Attacked by CORE." The article reported that Denver CORE was planning a sit-in at the office of Gov. John Love to protest his failure to include civil-rights legislation in his message to the state legislature.

In Affluent America — There are presently seven million people on relief in this country, according to Abraham Ribicoff, former Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. He said the "overwhelming majority" of these could not go to work because they are too old, or sick or mothers of small children.

Social Responsibility and Profits — The *Saturday Review* has announced it will stop carrying cigarette advertising. Herbert Mayer, president of the McCall Corporation, which publishes *Saturday Review*, said such advertising would not be curtailed by the company's other two magazines, *McCall's* and *Redbook*. Last year *Saturday Review* sold about \$35,000 worth of cigarette advertising. *McCall's* sold about \$236,000 worth, and *Redbook*, \$360,000.

And Mostly to the Poorer Sections — A member of the British

"Beyond the Fringe" troupe now on Broadway observed that while there is poverty to be found in America it's largely confined to the slum areas.

Cultural Symbol — A million dollars in U.S. and foreign currency will hang from a "money tree" in front of the American Express pavilion at the World's Fair. A company spokesman said it will symbolize "the international economic and cultural forces of the world." Why not round out the theme by flying a dollar bill in place of the flag?

The Crusaders — Never let it be said that NBC-TV put profits before human welfare. For some time now, a spokesman proudly announced, it has been company policy not to accept cigarette commercials aimed too directly at young people. In fact, he added, they even discourage commercials in which the actors look too young and in some cases have required affidavits as to the age of the actors involved.

Solid Stake in Status Quo — Mississippi sheriffs are the highest paid in the country. A state law designates them as tax collectors and allows them a percentage of

the take. Some net as much as \$100,000 a year in lawful earnings.

Racist Minds At Work — A Negro boycott of stores in downtown Jackson, Miss., is reported 99 per cent effective. Mayor Allen Thompson appeared on TV to urge colored citizens to shop downtown and even assured them of police protection. As a further inducement the city offered prize drawings for downtown shoppers — with separate prizes for colored and white customers.

Wonder Why? — The UPI recently quoted Peace Corps director Sargent Shriver as saying that "many Latin Americans were indignant at American businessmen and considered them economic imperialists."

Nicest Headline of the Week — The Jan. 29 New York *Journal-American* reported: "City Warned Not to Build Too Many Jails."

South Vietnam 'Democracy' — According to a Jan. 28 Associated Press dispatch from Saigon there are presently 28,440 South Vietnamese citizens in jail. Of these, 69 per cent, or 19,623, are "political offenders."

20 YEARS AGO

"Millionaire socialites and wealthy real-estate and business interests won another skirmish in their war to make the world safe for profiteering parasites when Lt. Gen. Brehon Somervell recently ordered the evacuation on March 31 of almost 800 battle-wounded soldiers from the Breakers Hotel, Palm Beach, Florida.

"This \$50-a-day per room luxury hotel had been converted into a hospital, at a government expense of almost \$300,000, to provide special treatment in ideal climate for war victims suffering brain, spine, nerve, eye and facial injuries.

"But the swank idlers . . . don't like their exclusive resort filled up with 'common' disfigured war veterans . . . And real estate interests . . . don't want their profitable resort trade to suffer . . .

"So, through Senator Charles Andrews of Florida and Rep. Pat Cannon of the Palm Beach district, the plutocrats engaged in a high-pressure campaign on the War Department . . .

"The Breakers Hotel is indirectly owned by the Florida East Coast Railroad, which is dominated by the Rockefeller and duPont interests. This railroad has inflated its profits from \$743,699 in 1939 to \$9,004,940 in 1943." — Feb. 5, 1944.

Thought for the Week

"Employers must make a special effort to include the Negro, using an ingenuity similar to the ingenuity used for 300 years to exclude the Negro." — Whitney M. Young, Jr., executive director of the Urban League.

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SET "FREEDOM DAY II" IN CHICAGO

Rights Groups Map New School Boycott



MAY MEET AGAIN. Part of rally staged by Chicago's Negro community during its school boycott last Oct. 22. It was the biggest such anti-bias boycott in the nation's history. Chicago groups are now planning new action.

By Howard Sievers

CHICAGO — A second massive boycott of Chicago public schools has been called for by the Coordinating Council of Community Organizations (CCCO), a group representing 16 major civil-rights organizations in the city.

The purpose of the "Freedom Day II" boycott, like its forerunner "Freedom Day I," will be to protest the segregated and inferior education of the city's Negro children. This action was taken in spite of the refusal of support by the local NAACP and Urban League. Some elements in the NAACP, besides opposing the boycott, threatened to withdraw entirely from CCCO.

While plans were being laid for the new Chicago boycott, the Ad Hoc National Freedom Day Committee met here Jan. 25 to discuss plans for extending the Chicago and New York school boycotts. Projected is a national chain of boycotts during February to dramatize the plight of the victims of discriminatory education.

This new weapon in the Negro's fight for equality was forged last Oct. 22, when the CCCO called for a city-wide boycott of the Jim Crow schools. "Freedom Day" in Chicago grew into the biggest civil-rights boycott in the history of the nation. Half of the city's students and almost all Negro students stayed home in protest or attended "Freedom Schools," where they were taught the Negro history that is not mentioned in today's school texts. About 20,000 students and adults marched on the Board of Education building to deliver the demands of the boycott.

Chicago Superintendent of Schools, Benjamin Willis, has because of his discriminatory school policies, become the prime target of the CCCO.

Willis 'Resigns'

After facing smaller demonstrations against the inequality of the ghetto schools all summer, Willis resigned his \$48,000-a-year job. But city officials and the business community would not accept his action. Willis thereupon withdrew his resignation. This triggered the first "Freedom Day" boycott.

Lawrence Landry, co-head of the Chicago Area Friends of SNCC and leader of the boycott, said, "We have no doubt that business support was a key factor in the retention of Willis." Cited as evi-

dence were several public statements by high-ranking city officials and a telegram sent by 23 of the city's top businessmen to Mayor Daley and the Board of Education, taking strong stands for the retention of Willis.

Not long afterwards, when there were two vacancies on the School Board, both of Mayor Daley's choices were biased white businessmen. He ignored the demand that the new members be Negro educators familiar with the school situation.

After the Oct. 22 boycott, Landry said: "We had meetings and talks with Daley and other high city officials, but with no positive results."

Upon hearing of the Freedom Day II boycott plans, Mayor Daley said he would "take any step necessary" to prevent the one-day boycott. Daley then demanded that negotiations be substituted for the demonstration.

Landry replied "We would be unwilling to call off the boycott as a precondition of sitting down. Unions have never called off a strike as a precondition of negotiations, and I see no reason why we should."

CHICAGO, Jan. 22 — Following the example set by Harlem, Chicago's West Side Congress of Racial Equality has begun plans for an attack on this city's slumlords. The local rent strike will begin Feb. 1. Although initially limiting it to the West Side, its leaders envisage extending the strike to the entire ghetto area in the coming months.

Until now the only other major attempt at a rent strike in Chicago was at a 92-unit complex located at 212-222 Hamlin. The tenants there organized the Garfield Gardens Tenants Council which is co-ordinating the strike activities. They began the strike last December to protest a long list of violations such as lack of adequate heat and water, absence of usable fire escapes and fire extinguishers, and a faulty elevator which recently fell while carrying passengers. Moreover, rats and roaches have the run of the dilapidated building.

In an interview, the building manager, rather than denying charges made by the tenants, indignantly declared: "If these peo-

ple want better things, let them pay more rent!"

Eviction notices served on the striking tenants were taken to court. This week the case received its first hearing. As Chicago does not have a receivership law like that in New York, the only action taken by the judge was to delay the evictions for a week. During that time, he stated, he hoped an agreement would be reached. But he then undermined the tenants' bargaining power by stating that if no settlement was reached, he would be forced to rule against them since "the law requires a man must pay his rent no matter how bad the circumstances."

It is hoped that a city-wide rent strike mobilization will reverse this profits-before people attitude of the courts and city officials.

On the Civil-Liberties Front

Goldmarks Win Suit; Pacifica Gets License

There were several important developments on the civil-liberties front this past week.

1) There was a victory in the Goldmark case.

John Goldmark, a Washington state legislator, had been defeated for re-election in 1962 by a witch-hunt. Leading the red-baiting pack were Albert F. Canfield, former chairman of the state Legislative Committee on Un-American Activities, Ashley E. Holden, publisher of the *Tonasket* (Wash.) *Tribune*, Don Caron, state co-ordinator for the John Birch Society, and Loris A. Gillespie, a Birchite businessman.

All four were found guilty of having libeled Goldmark on five of nine counts by a jury in Okanogan, Wash., Jan. 22 after a long trial. Goldmark and his wife had been linked with "Communism" by these persons. Mrs. Goldmark on the grounds that she had been a Communist Party member from 1935 to 1943, and Goldmark for belonging to the American Civil Liberties Union, which the reactionary *Tribune* publisher described as "closely affiliated with the Communist movement." The Goldmarks were awarded \$40,000 in damages.

2) The Pacifica non-profit, listener-supported, FM radio stations won operating licenses. The Federal Communications Commission

Right-to-Vote 'Stand-In' In Hattiesburg, Miss.

By Jay Garnett

JAN. 28 — Over 255 Negroes and white Northern ministers staged a stand-in and a demonstration at the Forrest County Courthouse in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Jan. 22. While pickets paraded with signs saying "Register to Vote," some 40 Negroes were admitted to the registrar's office to take the tests. A fraction of these are expected to be accepted in three weeks or so.

Aaron Henry, NAACP state chairman and candidate for governor in the recent "Underground Election," and Bob Moses, SNCC Mississippi Project director and initiator of SNCC's voter-registration campaign, were on the line. Moses was arrested and was convicted subsequently of charges including "failure to obey an officer."

The demonstration was heavily guarded by police and there was no violence. Reporters were told it was the first time in Mississippi that a bi-racial demonstration took place without the interference of the authorities or other segregationist elements. Local officials indicated their desire to "avoid" the publicity that would accompany mass arrests and violence.

Southeastern Mississippi, where Hattiesburg is located, has been chosen as the site of a determined voter-registration drive by SNCC and the Council of Federated Organizations. Hattiesburg itself has a rather unique history — trade unions were very active there and until 1948 there was even some Negro political activity.

When the registration drive started, only 12 out of 7,406 Negroes of voting age were registered. In 1961 the federal government brought suit to enjoin County Registrar Theron Lynd from discriminating against Negro applicants. In a hearing March 1962, the government showed in court that (1) Lynd had never registered a Negro; (2) until January 1961, no Negro had been permitted to apply; (3) and after that date, obviously qualified Negroes

were rejected.

After the court refused to act, appeal was made. Then, on July 15, last year Lynd was found guilty of civil contempt and at long last ordered to cease his discriminatory treatment of applicants. The U.S. Supreme Court on Jan. 6 refused Lynd's appeal to reopen the case.

In announcing the Jan. 22 demonstration, Lawrence Guyot, SNCC voter-registration drive head in the Hattiesburg area, said of efforts to get Negroes registered: "The only way is with federal intervention." The Jan. 22 "Freedom Day" demonstrations were being held, he declared "because of the inactivity of both the Justice Department and Theron Lynd. We can't ask people to go down and take a test given by a man who has no regard for federal court orders. The only recourse we have is federal intervention or community action."

Guyot was arrested Jan. 27.



SNCC photo

Robert Moses

had for years refused to grant these stations more than temporary licenses. Recently the FCC held their request for license renewal in waiting and, in an unprecedented move last November, demanded the directors of the Pacifica Foundation sign questionnaires on possible "Communist" affiliation.

Refused to Sign

The Pacifica directors refused. Protests against this McCarthy-like harassment were made by the ACLU, the American Jewish Congress, the *New York Times*, and others. In a sudden reversal of policy the FCC granted the operating licenses Jan. 22 and issued a very liberal statement supporting "provocative" programming on radio and TV and criticizing "blandness."

3) The Justice Department asked a federal Court of Appeals Jan. 21 to reconsider its Dec. 17 ruling that the Communist Party did not have to register as an "agent" of the Soviet Union. The Department complained that the Dec. 17 ruling seriously "impairs the enforceability" of the thought-control McCarran Act. Thus the justice Department made clear its determination to reverse the partial victory for civil liberties registered by the Dec. 17 ruling.

That ruling permitted the Communist Party to resume the normal

activities of any political party, although still subject to the restrictions and threats in many of the other "anti-Communist" laws. A reversal of the appeals court ruling would once again subject that party to virtual outlawing under the liberty-destroying McCarran Act.

Baldwin to Speak On 'Kidnap' Case

NEW YORK — James Baldwin, the novelist and spokesman of the Negro struggle, will address a meeting on the significance of the trumped-up "kidnap" case about to be tried in Monroe, North Carolina.

Chairman will be Dave Dellinger, an editor of *Liberation*, recently jailed in Albany, Ga., along with members of the CNVA's Quebec-to-Guantanamo peace walk.

The meeting will be under the auspices of the Committee to Aid the Monroe Defendants. It will be held Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 8 p.m. at Community Church, 40 E. 35th St.