

Detention-Camp Preview of Barbed-Wire America

Concentration camps for political dissenters — particularly opponents of war — are being established in this country, Farrell Dobbs said in this paper on Aug. 4. Citing the McCarran-Kilgore Internal Security Act of 1950 and the Attorney General's implementing orders last January, the presidential candidate of the Socialist Workers Party told how prisoner-of-war camps from World War II were being put in shape to "detain" Americans indefinitely without trial by jury.

Now we have an actual eyewitness report on one of the "detention" camps being readied, under the provisions of the McCarran concentration-camp law, for those whom the Attorney General finds "there is reasonable ground to believe that such persons will probably engage in acts of espionage or sabotage."

Charles R. Allen, Jr., recently wrote two extensive articles for the N. Y. Daily Compass describing his visit to the Federal Prison Camp near Allenwood, Pa., a small town 80 miles north of Harrisburg. During the last war this was the Susquehanna Ordnance Depot where TNT was made, packed, tested and stored for the Army.

The site lay in disuse from 1947 until last February when Guy C. Rexroad, Colonel, United States Army (Retired), arrived with 60 prisoners from the Federal Penitentiary in Ashland, Ky., to rehabilitate the ordnance depot for a "detention" camp. It is an 8,400-acre area completely surrounded by 12-foot-high reinforced barbed-wire fences.

Col. Rexroad personally showed Allen around the camp and described the work going on there and its purpose. He acknowledged, in reply to Allen's question, that this was to be a "detention" camp under the Internal Security Act. "That is the basic nature of our mission here."

ASKED NOT TO TELL ALL

"But you're the first newspaper man we've had here," Rexroad confided to Allen. "And if you love your country, you won't tell everything that you see here..." At any rate, Allen loves his country enough to disclose what he learned about attempts to convert it into a replica of Naziland.

Before taking Allen on a tour of the camp site, Rexroad showed him the layout on a map. Pointing to one structure on the map, the Colonel said:

"This building was — and still is — a warehouse. After we fix it up we ought to be able to get 1,500 or maybe more into it."

He pointed to another spot:

"This was the machine shop at one time and will be very accommodating... We can squeeze at least 3,000 down there."

Showing a third cluster of structures on the map, the Colonel added:

"If we need the room we can take this and work in another thousand or so."

The Colonel let spill the fact that whole families — fathers, mothers and young children — might be thrust into confinement behind the barbed-wire barriers of this prison camp.

WORLD WAR II PRECEDENT
"So far the uniforms we've received and the material we have is for males but I guess there'll be women too. Probably whole families. I know that's what they did with the Japanese."

This refers to the 100,000 Japanese Americans who were torn from their homes without warning right after Pearl Harbor and herded into "relocation centers" — fancy term for concentration camps — in isolated areas. Many of those seized were native-born Americans. They were held as prisoners without trial or hearings for four years.

"As I understand it these people would overthrow the government by force and violence if we didn't put them away," the warden and retired Colonel explained. But kids, old men and women? asked Allen. There was a momentary silence and the warden then said abruptly, "Come on, let's go through the administration building."

After examining the administration building, which was to be the camp's "control point," Allen was invited by Rexroad to "get into the car and see where we're going to stick 'em."

They drove off to a "vast stretch of huge earthen mounds — the 'igloos' which had held the completed TNT."

There the warden showed the building that "it'll be used for the main barracks." It was an abandoned machine shop with concrete block walls, cement floor and flat roof.

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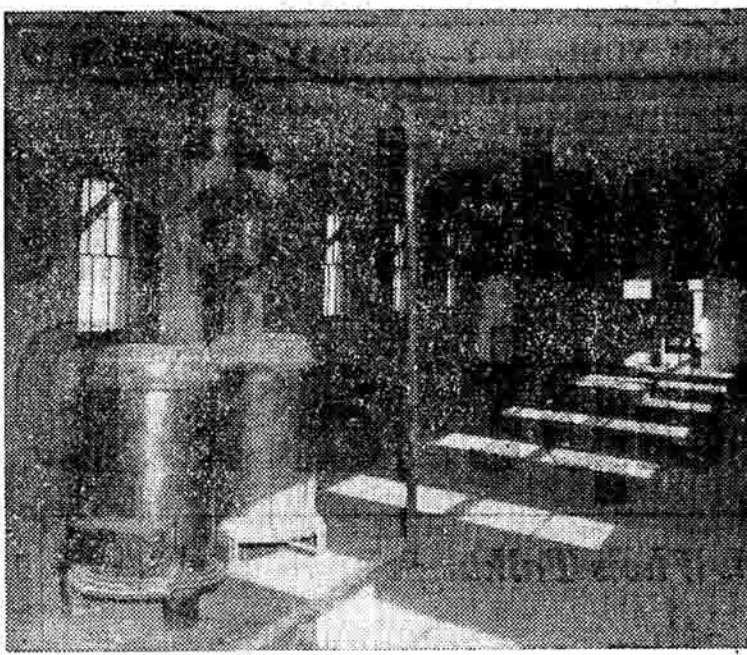
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For Political Dissenters



Barren interior of barracks building above is typical of installations at Tulelake, Calif., Federal Prison Camp 38, one of six such places of detention being prepared on orders of Truman's Justice Dept. to hold political prisoners in concentration camps without trial under the McCarran Act.

oblong building on which some of the prison laborers were working. "I'll be able to get at least 1,500 in here," the warden said. But he didn't want to stop. It was a warehouse, but it "poses a particular problem," he explained. "There are no windows in it and they've got to have some ventilation."

Then there would be sunshine

and fresh air for the inmates? Allen asked.

"Oh, it won't be any picnic. Probably won't be any better — if as good — as the Japanese camps," Rexroad replied.

All told, the camp would be ready to hold from 4,000 to 7,000 prisoners, the Colonel agreed. "Although you now know about as much as I do about the place — I don't know when they'll be coming or how they'll be treated. I'm just here to put the place in order," he said almost apologetically.

Before Allen left the camp, the Colonel took him aside: "Now look here. Don't go blow this thing up. I think the less the people know, the less worrying they'll do. After all — it's part of our national defense."

REACTION IN COMMUNITIES
Allen interviewed some 150 people from all walks of life in the nearby communities to learn their reaction to the fact of a concentration camp being set up so near.

The city editor of the Sun, a newspaper in Williamsport, a city of 45,000, knew of the camp and said they had carried a short piece last February when Col. Rexroad had first moved in to rehabilitate the camp. "We used the term 'detention camp.' I know the 'wire services used 'concentration camp' but not us... Never said anything editorially... If we ever get around to saying anything however it would be favor-

able (to the camp) I can tell you that..."

Another Williamsport editor said they had printed nothing editorially on the camp. "After all nobody's in there yet. We wouldn't want to stir things up unnecessarily... What do I think personally? Well, we got to do something in the event of a war, don't we?" Allen remarked that in World War II there was no such move to imprison pro-Nazis. "Well, this time it's different," the editor claimed.

Outside of the newspaper editors hardly anyone even knew of the existence of the camp.

"ONLY THE GODLESS"
"I went to see one of the town's (Lewisburg) leading clergymen," Allen writes. "He expressed horror at the very idea of a detention camp and quickly concluded that nothing of the sort was going on. But he wound up by assuring me that 'only the godless will go there, son.'"

The one outspoken comment came from an AFL official in Harrisburg. He was quite heated about the fact that the government is using prison labor to fix up the camp. "Not union labor, mind you, but prison labor." Did he mean that the only disturbing thing was that the camp didn't have a union label? "Well, no, not exactly. But they could use union labor."

Whether Stevenson or Eisenhower gets elected, the concentration camps of Barbed-Wire America will be ready for them to fill.

The drafters of the Constitution represented the wealthy merchant and banking classes and the Southern aristocracy. America was torn with class struggles and the drafting of the Constitution was a very important step in the campaign of the ruling classes to retain their power over the lower classes — particularly over the debt-ridden farmers, who comprised the biggest single section of the population.

SHAYS' REBELLION
These farmers were in great ferment throughout the country. In Massachusetts their resistance to foreclosures, evictions and imprisonment for debt flared into civil war with Shays' Rebellion. Even after Shays' military defeat the movement retained great political power. In Rhode Island the farmers had won control of the state government and passed laws favorable to the debtor classes at the expense of the wealthy.

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Who Made America?

By George Lavan

How We Got the Bill of Rights

A steady theme of the politicians, editors and other propagandists of Big Business is that capitalism has given the American people its political liberties and its high

standard of living. But the truth is that our relatively high standard of living and our steadily diminishing political liberties were not generously granted to the American people by capitalism but were forced out of the ruling class by the struggles of workers and farmers.

Let us begin near the beginning. The Constitution of this country is considered by most people a charter of liberties. The average American, when he thinks of the Constitution, thinks of such guarantees as freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of religious belief, right of petition, and the right of forming associations.

But when the Constitution was drawn up none of these rights were in it. This was not because the men who met in secret sessions in Philadelphia for four months to draft the Constitution were absent-minded. They were agreed that the inclusion of such guarantees were against the interests of the classes they represented.

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Europe on Starvation Rations

By Harry Frankel

According to the latest report of the UN Economic Commission for Europe, the balance of payments crisis in Europe still continues, and is even growing worse. This is the crisis that has dumped successive French ministries and has recently given signs of threatening the ministry of "businessman" Pinay. It is the crisis that caused British Tory Prime Minister Winston Churchill to say, last June, that economically, Britain stands on "a treacherous trapdoor."

The balance of payments troubles of leading European capitalist nations are really nothing more than the typical troubles of paupers on relief. Capitalist Europe, bankrupt and facing collapse, is propped up by U.S. dollars, which are doled out with a sparing hand.

During 1950, it seemed for a while as though the European position was improving. The dollar shortage was temporarily eased, and the facile optimists of the U.S. State Department began to speak of the "solution" of Europe's international payment problems. With the revival of the dollar shortage in extremely acute form during 1951 and the first part of 1952, it has become clear that Europe's payments crisis has not only not been solved, but that furthermore it is insoluble.

What is the payments crisis? Simply stated, it is this: that the west European capitalist nations, as a bloc, cannot pay for their surplus of imports over exports in their trade with the U.S. For example, in 1951, U.S. exports exceeded imports to such an extent that the rest of the world owed the U.S. capitalist class over \$4 billion. Furthermore, the U.S., as the world's most powerful imperialism, was entitled to a rakeoff on its foreign investments; this rakeoff being so great that the U.S. capitalists only had to pay for about 3/4 of their imports, the rest being paid for by income on foreign investments. Thus, the total of the two items, export surplus and foreign investment income, came to at least \$7 billion in one year.

TRIBUTE TO WALL STREET
This was the tribute which the rest of the world had to render to the Wall Street Caesar. Not a very large sum in the total American economy, it is nevertheless big enough to seriously disorganize the economies of several European capitalist countries.

One of the chief reasons why this fatal disproportion in world economy did not show itself in sharp form until mid-1951 was U.S. economic aid. Since 1947, the U.S. has exported to the rest of the world about \$30 to \$35 billion more than it has imported. Since that same year, U.S. economic aid of various kinds, such as Marshall Plan, loans and credits, etc., has also been about \$30 to \$35 billion. This equation of dollar figures is no accidental coincidence. The U.S. government has financed the U.S. foreign trade surplus in full for the whole postwar period.

"OPERATION RAT HOLE"
This also helps to explain why U.S. economic aid to Europe has been generally unsuccessful in doing much more than maintain

the economy. The billions of dollars that have been poured into "operation rat hole" have really been devoted only to relieving the disproportion between the thriving American and the floundering European economies.

Why this problem became especially acute in late 1951 can be seen from the following fact: In early 1950, U.S. economic aid to western Europe amounted to about 84% of non-military exports to that area. In other words, the U.S. capitalist class sent \$84 in aid to Europe for every \$100 of goods it sold there. But by the latter part of 1951, with the sharp decrease in economic aid as it was replaced by pure and direct military aid, dollar help to west Europe was only 27% of U.S. exports to that area. Hence the crisis.

The chief seats of the crisis seem to be England and France, but in reality the crisis affects all of capitalist Europe. This fact is masked by the operation of the European Payments Union, which loads the brunt of the troubles onto the backs of England and France. All that the European Payments Union does is raise the crisis to the level of a

system, and organize it on a permanent basis.

DRAPER REPORT
A good example of that was given by U.S. special Ambassador William H. Draper Jr., banker turned diplomat, who roams Europe to keep check on how Wall Street's money is being spent. In his recent report on the state of Europe, Draper shows how the successes of a single small European nation threw the whole international machine into a crisis.

Here is what happened: The European Payments Union had been settling the monthly trade balances of about a score of European countries successfully for around two years when it ran into the Belgian problem in the spring of 1952. Belgium had worked up a favorable balance of trade of about \$30 to \$40 million a month. The EPU did not have the money to pay Belgium. Belgium, receiving a small partial payment from the EPU, was running into a cash shortage.

THREATENING SUCCESS
This Belgian success threatened "the very existence" (Draper's words) of the European Pay-

ments Union. The European finance ministers, after two months, came up with this "solution":

1. The EPU agreed to give Belgium a little more of the cash coming to it.

2. Belgium increased her imports, thus deliberately worsening her balance of trade, by placing some war orders in France and Britain.

3. This threatened unemployment in Belgium, so the U.S. placed some war orders of its own in Belgium under its offshore procurement program.

4. Belgium then extended additional credit to the other EPU countries.

5. And finally, the whole arrangement was propped up by a loan of \$50 million from the International Monetary Fund.

BUY UP EUROPE
In this same report, Ambassador Draper proposes as a means of solving the crisis, that the U.S. increase its foreign investments. What this means in plain language is this: that instead of demanding its dollars in payment from Europe, U.S. capitalists leave them over there in exchange for ownership of a piece of European capitalism. They are doing this already, but this is no solution. It only makes things worse in the long run, because the more foreign investments the U.S. has, the greater becomes the amount of profit due to Wall Street each year, and thus the greater the "dollar gap."

Other economists urge lower U.S. exports; of course that is when they are attending "foreign trade conferences." When they leave the foreign trade conference and walk into a "domestic well-being conference," they turn their hats around and shout for increased U.S. exports. The Department of Economics of the McGraw Hill Co. has pointed out: "For many American producers, the export market, which this year will take about \$14 billion of civilian goods, spells the difference between operating at capacity and closing down 25% of their facilities." Thus the proposed U.S. export cut is no solution.

Nor is the proposition for Europe to sell more to the U.S. any better. In the first place, European capitalist nations could never increase their sales in U.S. markets enough to make any difference without cutting into U.S. production, sales and employment seriously. In the second place, U.S. capitalists moving to limit American imports, are seriously troubling the European capitalists with the prospect that Europe probably won't be able to keep its present level of exports to the U.S., let alone increase them.

The truth is, there is no solution to the international payments problem, because it is a problem of a collapsing European capitalism trying to trade with a thriving U.S. capitalism. A club-wielding robbery is inherent in the situation, only in this case the thug is forced to support his victim after every blow.

POOR BOY ON THE MAKE
It is true, as Nixon complained, that he is not rich like Republican Senator Taft or Democratic Senator Kerr who don't need "outside aid." And it's true that most other Senators and Representatives also supplement their big government salaries and allowances from private sources.

I don't think this any excuse for Nixon's little racket and I'm not sorry to see a cheap political shyster and red-baiter like him exposed. But the chief lesson is that the "good, honest" businessmen run the party machines like baseball farms. They buy and train local politicians whom they hope to star in the Washington Big League.

Nixon also acquired a \$41,000 home near the Capitol, in addition to his house in California, since he became a Senator in 1950.

NOT "SPECIAL" — JUST "USUAL"
Nixon claims that he never did any "special favors" for those who paid into his fund. I suppose he was doing just the "usual favors" for his wealthy "angels" when he voted against all amendments to close loopholes in the excess profits tax laws and to increase the taxes of the rich, while opposing rent control and government-built housing.

Dana C. Smith, corporation attorney and investment banker who administers Nixon's \$18,000 fund, when confronted on Sept. 18 by reporters who had learned of the fund's existence, explained that its purpose "is to enable Dick (Nixon) to do a selling job to the American people in behalf of free enterprise (capitalism)" and that "Dick did just what we wanted him to do." Smith ought to know — he runs the fund.

He didn't spend a cent of the \$18,000 fund for himself, he claimed, it all went for political purposes. The audit he made public shows such peculiar items as \$2,306 "principally in connection with trips in, to and from California" and \$410 for "meetings and luncheons." I am particularly intrigued by the item of \$4,237 for "Christmas cards: 16,500 for 1950 and 25,000 for 1951."

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The Artful Dodger

Stevenson told a Baltimore audience last week that he is for wage and price controls, and, "if it has to come, tighter wage controls as well as tighter price controls." You will notice that he did not, in spite of all his pretensions towards frankness, tell this to the AFL Convention in New York on Monday. He waited until he got to Baltimore on Wednesday.

On Monday, at the AFL, he confined himself to vague generalities against the Taft-Hartley law. He said there ought to be "changes" in the law, but in saying this, he did not say any more than Taft himself has said.

Not many months before his campaign started, Stevenson said he wanted to keep the Taft-Hartley law "with amendments." Later, after he had become a candidate, he said the political symbolism of the law makes repeal necessary. At the AFL, he made clear that to him "repeal or revision" is simply haggling over words. He also made it clear that he would want to retain the substance of the Taft-Hartley law.

Stevenson's Baltimore speech contained the same kind of slippery wording as his AFL convention speech, but his real program emerges from a careful reading.

Stevenson is being supported by the leaders of the CIO and AFL. Both labor federations oppose any wage freeze at the present time. Thus Stevenson's program cuts directly across that favored by labor. This made some careful wriggling necessary.

Stevenson's ancient wheeze about "controlling" prices as well as wages should fool no one at this late date. Every administration stabilizer, every government official since 1941 who has had anything to do with the wage freeze has spoken of it as a "wage-price" freeze, or sometimes even as a "wages-prices-profits" freeze, in order to imply an even-handed impartiality towards all classes. In practice, prices have soared, profits have mounted and wages alone have been frozen.

In his Baltimore speech Stevenson saw in the steel case "a further impetus to inflation." Was he against the steelworkers' wage raise? Would he oppose the recently won increase by the coalminers? Not a word on this.

Despite Stevenson's pretense at being above the usual "artful dodges" of politics, we can see that he employs them in full measure. To save the most important part of a labor speech for a non-labor audience, then to put words in the mouths of "many people" when he really means "I"; that is the weasel method of which we have seen so much in the U.S. among the so-called "pro-labor" demagogues. Stevenson is no exception.

Trotsky's Murderer

There is one name that both the Kremlin and all the imperialists, each side for its own particular reasons, would like to blot out from the memory of mankind. It is the name of Leon Trotsky. But twelve years after his death, Trotsky's name keeps coming up in the press. If the publishers of True Magazine featured an article in their October issue establishing the identity of Trotsky's assassin, it is because they know that Trotsky's name is still international headline news.

Together with Lenin, Trotsky is the founder of the first victorious workers state in history, established in Russia in 1917. He organized and led to victory the first proletarian army, the Red Army, against odds no other army ever faced. After Lenin's death, Trotsky continued fighting for the socialist future of mankind.

He exposed and fought the policies and the rule of the privileged, nationalist-minded bureaucracy that usurped power in the Soviet Union, with Stalin at its head.

As catastrophe after catastrophe struck the working masses of Europe and the whole world, Trotsky's voice, Trotsky's ideas attracted the attention of more and more millions. He was the first to warn and fight against Stalinism. He was the first to warn against the threat of Hitler and to point out how the fatal policies of Stalinism and the German Social Democrats were paving Hitler's way to power. He was the first to predict that Stalin would make a pact with Hitler and that Hitler would then turn against the Soviet Union.

He was the one man Stalin hated and feared, because no one else exposed so clearly and consistently the crimes and blunders of the Kremlin dictator, while counterposing at every step the correct road of socialist struggle.

In his conspiracy to kill Trotsky, Stalin not only employed his vast world-wide apparatus with its gangs of hired killers, but he also received the indirect aid of one "democratic" capitalist government after another.

Hating and fearing Trotsky's revolutionary socialist ideas, these governments refused Trotsky asylum. At the height of Stalin's major political preparations for the murder of Trotsky, amid the infamous Moscow Trials of the late Thirties, the Norwegian government, including its "socialist" Minister Trygve Lie, now secretary of the UN, made Trotsky a prisoner, prevented him from replying to Stalin's frameups and ordered Trotsky deported.

The only country that agreed to grant Trotsky asylum was Mexico, then under the presidency of Gen. Cardenas; and it was in Mexico, in August 1940, that Stalin's assassin finally carried out the long-planned murder.

Traces of this international conspiracy against Trotsky's life are still glaringly evident. Consider the single fact that "mystery" still officially surrounds the assassination of Trotsky. Even the nationality of the assassin has never been established by any governmental agency. Every important piece of evidence in the case has come from private individuals, private efforts.

But despite every effort, direct and indirect, at concealment and connivance, the full truth has come out. Stalin stands completely exposed as Trotsky's murderer. And that is how history will brand him.

Stevenson -- New Idol of Liberals

By Art Preis

Not since the days of Roosevelt have the political woods echoed to such trillings and cooings from the liberals as the rapturous chorus that has burst forth in the past couple of weeks for Adlai Stevenson. He is represented virtually as the second coming of FDR.

Part of this response to Stevenson is subjective. The liberals and intellectuals see in him an image of themselves — educated, cultured, clever. He appeals to their petty-bourgeois snobbery.

William E. Bohn, columnist of the Stalinophobic and social-democratic New Leader, last week leaped from the Eisenhower to the Stevenson bandwagon, finding the Governor "the best candidate . . . since Wilson" and comparable to "Roosevelt and the scholars and philosophers whom our ancestors had the brains and taste to elect." The New Republic's Washington correspondent, T. R. B., sees Stevenson not only as a "reporter's dream . . . polished, urbane, consistently entertaining" but also possessed of the "effin, fey qualities" of a "political Peter Pan."

Even those who apparently had broken with the old parties, like the Progressive party group around the N. Y. Daily Compass, have caught the fever. Among them is I. F. Stone, author of "The Hidden History of the Korean War."

Precisely because he has not been a hand-raiser for the two big parties like other liberals and has courageously opposed Washington's foreign policy and intervention in Korea, Stone's endorsement of Stevenson, announced in his Sept. 21 column in the Compass, warrants serious analysis.

Stone adopts something of a Barbara Fritchie air — a defiant "shoot if you must this old grey head" attitude. He admits that what he now says is "inconsistent with a good deal I have written, but that doesn't worry me either." It is bound, however, to disturb those who demand firm principles in politics.

Stone "devotes considerable space to the 'lesser evil' theory. Here he argues like most labor leaders and liberals, who claim Stevenson will hurt labor and the Negro people less than Eisenhower. But domestic issues are overshadowed by the threat of war, as far as Stone is concerned. And he is correct.

"MOST IMPORTANT POINT"

"I leave to the last the most important point of all. I have

confidence in Stevenson. . . I believe I hear in his speeches the accents of an extraordinarily able man capable of leading this country back along the path to peace and freedom. . . I believe the overriding issue is peace and I believe that on foreign policy Eisenhower is as much a puppet as was Dewey in the hands of John A. Foster Dulles, who . . . preaches war today against the social revolution in China and Eastern Europe in the name of

'liberation.' I see no possibility of successful negotiations for peace with the Republicans under such leadership. I do think negotiations may be possible with Stevenson. That chance alone is enough for me."

Thus, according to Stone, a vote for Stevenson is a vote for peace or at least for the possibility of peace negotiations which might prevent a world war.

Now, what grounds are there for believing that Stevenson differs in any fundamental way on foreign policy with either Truman or Eisenhower or Dulles? What reason is there — other than accepting Stone's own mystic "confidence" — for believing that Stevenson seriously intends to undertake peace negotiations with the Soviet Union and to oppose counter-revolution in the Far East? And just how would such negotiations ensure us against war?

A FEW PHRASES

The sole grounds for Stone's "confidence" in Stevenson are a few phrases tossed into his San Francisco foreign policy speech on Sept. 10 — phrases intended as bait for people like Stone whose votes in a tight election race might mean the difference between victory and defeat. Stevenson said he would "never fear to negotiate in good faith with the Soviet Union" and that "if we do not have war, we must have co-existence on some basis with a ruthless, inscrutable and perhaps equal power in the world for a long time to come."

Stevenson offers nothing more concrete than these phrases. This is enough for Stone. Truman at least had a specific proposal to make in 1948 when he said he was thinking of sending Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson to talk things over with "good old Joe" in Moscow. This bit of demagogic cost Wallace and the Progressive Party many votes. And that's what Stevenson is thinking about today. The votes that went in 1948 to Wallace in New York, Illinois and California might be enough to decide the outcome of

a close race this year, Stone says "I am not going to run the risk of electing Eisenhower and Nixon by voting for Hallinan and Bass."

NO BASIC DISTINCTION

If their stands on foreign policy is decisive, then there is no basic distinction between Stevenson and Eisenhower. Morris H. Rubin, editor of The Progressive magazine, who has come out in support of Stevenson, acknowledges:

"Stevenson not only embraces the Administration's foreign policy in its entirety, but insists, unwisely, I think, that there is no difference between Eisenhower and himself on this subject." And he quotes Stevenson's Labor Day statement that "I do not believe there is any fundamental issue between the Republican candidate for President and myself. As far as I know, he, like myself, approves the basic direction our foreign policy has been following."

The "basic direction" is not indicated in the hopeful, consoling phrases Stone emphasizes. It is in the part where Stevenson declares himself "proud" of U.S. intervention in Korea and urges more U.S. support for the British and French counter-revolutionary wars against the people of Malaya and Indo-China. It is in his previous speech on Aug. 31, hailing Truman for his stand in Korea.

By stalling a truce, Stevenson said, "we have gained a year's time" to "enormously expand our defense production" and build up "the strength of our Allies."

Stevenson himself has written a book in which he proves conclusively the criminality of U.S. intervention in Korea and the responsibility of both the Democratic administration and the Republicans for prolonging the truce negotiations. Yet Stone backs Stevenson who promises only to continue that criminal war and calls the stalling of the truce a blessing, permitting time to build up greater forces for the third world war.

Stevenson represents the interests of the ruling capitalist circles whose profit system drives straight toward war regardless of what Stalin does or doesn't do and no matter what "negotiations" might be held. It is this inherent war drive of U.S. capitalism that will set the course for Stevenson. And it will dictate the reactionary trend of his domestic policies.

In supporting Stevenson, however, Stone is not being unfaithful to the program of the Progressive Party. He is carrying it out to its logical conclusion. The Progressive Party is founded on the program of "Big Power negotiations" as the means to secure peace. If that is a sound program, then why should anyone support the Progressive Party now that a candidate who has a chance to win says he will not "close the door" on negotiations?

Stone derisively calls Eisenhower an "optical illusion." But what is this "peace-negotiating" Stevenson that Stone sees if not a political mirage in the desert of the witch hunt and the preparations for World War III?

World Events

By Charles Hanley

GERMAN INDUSTRIALISTS, encouraged by the State Department, are inquiring about arms contracts, the Wall Street Journal reports. Next year the steel plants in the Ruhr may be busy making guns for American and German forces.

TWO TOP FRENCH Stalinists were removed from the Communist Party Secretariat Sept. 17 because of their "leftist" position: Andre Marty, hero of the 1919 mutiny in the Black Sea, and Charles Tillon, organizer of partisans in World War II. Up to now the two "deviations" from Thorez' line have not recanted.

SWEDISH STALINISTS lost three of their eight seats in Parliament. The ruling coalition of Agrarians and Socialists won the elections Sept. 21, but their margin was reduced because the Conservatives gained 7 seats.

BECHARA EL KHOURY, President of Lebanon, resigned Sept. 18 after a three-day general strike against government corruption and turned power over to the Army.

INDONESIA'S Minister of Defense outlined a three-year plan to fight partisans in the mountains. "Rebels" include a Trotskyist "band," according to N. Y. Times correspondent Tillman Durbin.

IN INDO-CHINA three French prisoners of war, released by the Viet-Namese freedom-fighters, told AP correspondent Max Clos they had to attend political lectures and discussions. One of them, Lieut. de Villeneuve, declared he had not been interned in a prison camp; the group of prisoners to which he belonged were quartered in a small village and treated very well.

ANOTHER BLOODY incident occurred in Kojan camp in Korea when three U.S. infantry platoons opened fire on demonstrating Korean prisoners of war, injuring eleven.

PAKISTAN'S land reform has been delayed by feudal landlords through a court order. The reform plan included compensation for landlords by payment of ten times the annual rental.

THE MEXICAN Labor Federation demands a minimum wage of \$1.20 instead of 80 cents daily.

Newark Fri. Night Socialist Forum

presents a talk on
The Case of the Legless Veteran, 1948-1952

Speaker:
George Breitman
Fri., Oct. 3, 8:30
at 52 Market St.

The Mexican unionists also want a law providing for workers sharing in corporation profits. And they demand that company books be opened for union inspection.

A MONTEVIDEO correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor reports that strikes have become frequent in Uruguay. The cost of living has gone up; even meat has become scarce and expensive, and life has ceased to be "free and easy" as inflation continues to undermine the buying power of the peso.

BRITISH TROOPS left Eritrea, East Africa, Sept. 16. This former Italian colony is now an autonomous state. Foreign affairs remain under control of Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie.

Farrell Dobbs Tour Schedule

Sept. 26-29 New York

New York Public Meeting:
Fri., Sept. 26, 8 P.M.
at Cornish Arms Hotel
23rd St. near 8th Ave.
Radio Speech:
Tues., Sept. 30, 2 P.M.
WNYS (830 on dial)

Oct. 2-5 Los Angeles

Los Angeles Public Meeting:
Sat., Oct. 5, 8 P.M.
at Militant Labor Hall
1702 E. 4th St.

Oct. 7-9 San Francisco-Oakland

Oct. 11-13 Seattle
Oct. 16-18 Minneapolis-St. Paul
Oct. 19-20 Milwaukee
Oct. 21-24 Chicago
Oct. 26 St. Louis
Oct. 28-Nov. 2 Detroit-Flint-Toledo

Myra T. Weiss Tour Schedule

Sept. 30-Oct. 1 Akron

Akron Public Meeting
Wed., Oct. 1, 8 P.M.
Community Center
250 East Market

Oct. 2-3 Youngstown

Youngstown Public Meeting:
Fri., Oct. 3, 8 P.M.
234 E. Federal St.

Oct. 4-5 Cleveland

Oct. 7-10 Buffalo
Oct. 12-16 Boston

Boston Public Meeting:
Mon. Oct. 13, 8:15 P.M.
Workers Educational Center
30 Stuart St.

Oct. 17-18 Newark

Oct. 19-20 Philadelphia
Oct. 21 Allentown
Oct. 23-26 New York
Oct. 27 New Haven

Oct. 29-31 San Francisco-Oakland
Nov. 1-2 Los Angeles

Claims Trotsky Killer Identified

(Continued from page 1)

Quiroz happened to look at his watch again. One minute and 40 seconds, he recalls. The print man handed him a card. "These match," he said simply. Quiroz, his heart beating wildly looked at the card. He remembers now how surprised he was that the card was yellowed and slightly dusty. Obviously no one had looked at it in a long, long time. Slowly, he checked the sets of prints. There was no doubt. They matched — every whorl, every delta. He now knew who Trotsky's assassin really was.

According to Dr. Quiroz, Mercader was arrested on June 12, 1935, "for taking part in a clandestine meeting of a group trying to organize the Youth Communist Committee in the back room of the 'Joquin Costa' saloon on the Calle Wilfredo in Barcelona. When he was booked at the police station he said he was a clerk and lived at No. 7, Calle Ancha. The police arrested seventeen young men at the meeting but only five, including Mercader, were held on special orders of the Ministry of Interior. . . .

"At the time of his arrest he was obviously fairly new at the business of being arrested. He innocently gave his correct name, age, address and the correct names of his parents. His mother's name was Eustasia Maria Caridad del Rio Hernandez and his father, since dead, was named Pablo Mercader."

Dr. Quiroz says that no one at Madrid police headquarters knew or suspected the significance of the card. Returning to Barcelona, he again went to the police and told them what he had found in Madrid.

"LONG SUSPECTED" IT

"They smiled patronizingly. 'Why didn't you tell us you were looking for Trotsky's murderer,' one official said. 'We've long suspected Ramon Mercader was the one. When we saw Frank Jackson's picture in the papers after the assassination some of us were certain it was that young commie, Ramon Mercader, but of course our records were destroyed and we couldn't prove anything.' Obviously no one in Barcelona had thought it worthwhile to check the print records in Madrid."

Dr. Quiroz asked if they didn't know about the efforts to establish Jackson's identity.

"One official shrugged his shoulders. 'Oh, we knew. But you forget in those days no one was talking to Spain officially. We were outcasts. So why should we volunteer information?'"

After a week of investigating, Dr. Quiroz says he uncovered con-

siderable information about Mercader's family. Born in 1914, he was the eldest of five children. His father died in 1926. His mother had already become a Communist. By 1925 "she was made a courier for secret trips to France and Belgium." In the late Twenties she was sent into the French Socialist Party and became active in the 15th Arrondissement in Paris. On occasional "courier missions" to Belgium she took her son with her "and in this way he probably picked up his small knowledge of Belgium." (After murdering Trotsky, the assassin pretended he was a Belgian, a lie that was quickly exposed by Belgian officials.)

In the mid-Thirties Caridad Mercader returned to Barcelona and when the Spanish Civil War broke out she "and her devoted son, Ramon, became active members of the United Socialist Party of Catalonia, a Communist International affiliate. She quickly was given an important Soviet Secret Police post, ferreting out unreliable members."

MET SIQUEIROS IN SPAIN
Among the GPU men functioning in Spain was David Alfaro Siqueiros, prominent Mexican artist who was later to head the unsuccessful attempt of May 24, 1940 to machine gun Leon Trotsky and his wife Natalia. Siqueiros met Caridad Mercader, took a liking to her son "and introduced him to artist friends in the Artists Anti-Fascist Union."

Caridad Mercader, her son and his newly-wedded wife, Elena, came to Mexico on Nov. 4, 1936, landing at Vera Cruz on the S.S. Durango. By February 1937 all three had disappeared.

The True article then repeats the well-known facts about the role of Louis Budenz in helping Jackson to meet Sylvia Ageloff, a follower of Trotsky, in Paris in 1938. Jackson won her confidence, became her lover, and, through her, gained access to the Trotsky household.

Dr. Quiroz continues with a story that doesn't sound quite plausible, but which — whether true or not — does not contradict the main facts. Quiroz says that the police of another city in Spain which he "prefers not to mention," picked up a Soviet spy. The spy, recently in the Soviet Union, told about meeting Caridad Mercader in the Monito Rest Home at Moscow. She had fled from Mexico in 1940 after the assassination of Trotsky. With her was another son, Luis, and her daughter-in-law, Elena.

The source of a final bit of information is not indicated: "For the past few years, Caridad Mer-

cader, the assassin's mother, has been living in Paris under an assumed name. Also living there with her is her son Jorge, an invalid, and her ever devoted daughter Montserrat. Luis, another son, is still in Moscow and a useful hostage."

Dr. Quiroz claims credit for making these discoveries about Trotsky's assassin in 1950. Why he was silent about them until now he does not explain. The author of the True article reports that Dr. Quiroz talked about publishing "a long scholarly treatise" dealing with Jackson. Perhaps this explains the delay.

GORKIN'S REPORT

The claim of Dr. Quiroz that before 1950 "no one had ever seriously thought of Jackson as possibly being a Spaniard" is not accurate. As a matter of fact, the story about Caridad Mercader and her son Ramon was reported in The Militant, June 20, 1949.

It appeared first as an appendix by Julian Gorkin to a book that was serialized in the summer of 1948 in Mexico under the title, "Asi Mataron a Trotsky." (English translation, "Murder in Mexico," by General Sanchez Salazar. Seeker & Warburg, London, 1950.)

The main difference between the claim of Julian Gorkin and True magazine about the identity of Jackson is in the substantiated evidence. Gorkin, prominent leader of the POUM, a Spanish working class party, said that various Catalan refugees "who occupied positions of trust in the Communist organization during the Spanish Civil War and who now stand aloof from it — or are opposed to it — have identified the assassin without leaving any room for doubt."

In addition to this testimony, he claimed to have "complementary proof" Gorkin did not reveal this proof but asserted "I now find myself in the position of being able to make a series of statements and of accepting responsibility for them. In conclusion, I may say that I can at any moment cite witnesses to prove the accuracy of what follows."

There are some discrepancies in details between True's story and Gorkin's. For example, Gorkin says that the assassin was Caridad Mercader's third son; True says her eldest. But in the main, the two stories corroborate each other.

JACSON'S PASSPORT

Both tie in with the following important fact established immediately after the assassination: Jackson's passport was originally issued to a naturalized Canadian, Tony Babich, who travelled on it



Shown presiding over 71st annual AFL convention in New York's Hotel Commodore is 79-year-old president William Green. AFL, after decades of traditional Gompers policy of "hands off" politics, finally made the plunge this year and endorsed a presidential candidate (Democrat Stevenson). Green and the AFL are still far behind the times, however, since the pressing need of the labor movement is not endorsement of a capitalist candidate, but formation of labor's own party.

Battlefront in Harlem

By Tom Denver

Mrs. Simmons' son was drafted into the army two years ago. Since his departure, something has happened which must be causing him to wonder about the democracy that he and millions of other American youth are being called upon to fight for. While Pvt. Simmons is fighting a so-called "police action" in Korea, his mother is fighting against a different police action in East Harlem.

Mrs. Simmons lives in a tenement that is to be demolished to make room for a City Housing Authority low-rent project. When the CHA first took over the area marked for demolition she was notified that she would be relocated in a new apartment at their expense and so she filed the required application.

Later she received a letter from the CHA telling her to report to the relocation office. The final paragraph informed her that failure to keep this appointment would result in eviction proceedings by the sheriff.

This notice didn't disturb Mrs. Simmons. She was so darn glad to get the whole business over with that there was no doubt about her being there — and on time.

Then came the shock. At the interview, she was told that her application for another apartment was invalid. She had listed herself and her son as "residents" of her old apartment when she knew all along that her son was in the army and overseas and therefore not a "resident."

Furthermore, she was told, "legally" she no longer had a son. As long as Pvt. Simmons was in the army he was Uncle Sam's boy and the gov-

ernment was responsible for where he slept and what he ate!

Mrs. Simmons argued in vain about wanting to have a home for her drafted son after he was discharged. The CHA officials referred again and again to the law which stated that "legally" she had no son. Besides, they smoothly admonished her, maybe he'll get married when he returns, or maybe he won't even want to live with you; he might have his own ideas about where he wants to live.

Then they offered her two alternatives: (1) A small place with just room for herself; or (2) an apartment shared with a total stranger.

Now a total stranger is a poor substitute for a son, as any mother will testify, and Mrs. Simmons is no exception. She is sticking by her guns and refusing the proposals of the CHA despite their threat to notify the sheriff to evict her.

I visited Mrs. Simmons and one of her neighbors. Both are members of the East Harlem Tenants League, an organization formed to defend tenants against the underhanded practices of the CHA. The conversation turned to eviction notices and Mrs. Simmons grimly nodded agreement as her neighbor said, "They can send the sheriff over to my place but they better send a black wagon too because I'm going out first if I don't get what I have coming to me."

Now it's quite a ways from East Harlem to Korea, but Mrs. Simmons' case easily bridges the miles. For while her drafted son is supposedly fighting to bring democracy to Korea, Mrs. Simmons is fighting for a little democracy in East Harlem, U.S.A.

Women in Dungarees

By Joyce Cowley

I used to work in an aircraft plant and I remember a rainy winter morning when we had to go out to the flying field. Tiny, one of the new girls, was almost lost in a flapping raincoat and hip boots. She struggled up a ladder and we stretched out our hands so that she could belly-flop across the slippery wing of the plane.

"I don't get it," said one of the men who helped her up, "I have to work. But you're married and your old man's working. Why don't you stay at home?"

He raised an interesting question. The N.Y. Times raised it, too. In an article "Why Twenty Million Women Work," they pointed out that every day more women join the labor force and the majority of these women are married. So they sent a woman journalist to work in a West Coast aircraft plant for 30 days and find out why women work. "Economic motivations," she reported after a month's research, "are frankly in the foreground."

She means in plain English that women need the money. I'm a working girl myself and this point always seemed fairly obvious. But I find that there is still a popular belief, especially among men who are not too enthusiastic about women holding down skilled jobs in industry, that women are just working for luxuries. Maybe a fur coat or a 1952 car.

A survey made by the Women's Bureau of 8,300 women workers in 100 trade unions does not bear out the fur-coat theory: "Daily living takes all or nearly all they earn, say most of the women replying to the questionnaire. 'Daily living' means immediate needs; it does not take care of the future. Most of these

working women have little choice as to where their money goes. It is spent as fast as it is earned to provide food, clothing and shelter for themselves and often for others, too."

The survey reports that six out of every ten women who are working support, or partly support, dependents in addition to supporting themselves. One out of every seven is the sole support of her family.

In 1939 when you could buy sirloin steak at 35c a pound and two loaves of bread for 15c, when you didn't have to watch at least a fifth of your income melt into taxes to keep the war machine going, it was still possible for a man to support his family. But now it takes two people to earn one week's pay.

The other evening when I visited a Militant reader, to get a subscription renewal, we talked about prices and how difficult it is to give our children the kind of nourishing meals they need.

"We just can't meet our bills," she explained. "When I get my husband's pay, I add up everything that we owe and it always comes to a lot more than his check. Then I put aside the bills that can wait. But even the ones I have to pay right now come to more than we've got."

"Millions of other families are in the same boat," I told her. "That's why you find so many women in industry nowadays."

"You're telling us," said her husband. "We know why they have to get jobs."

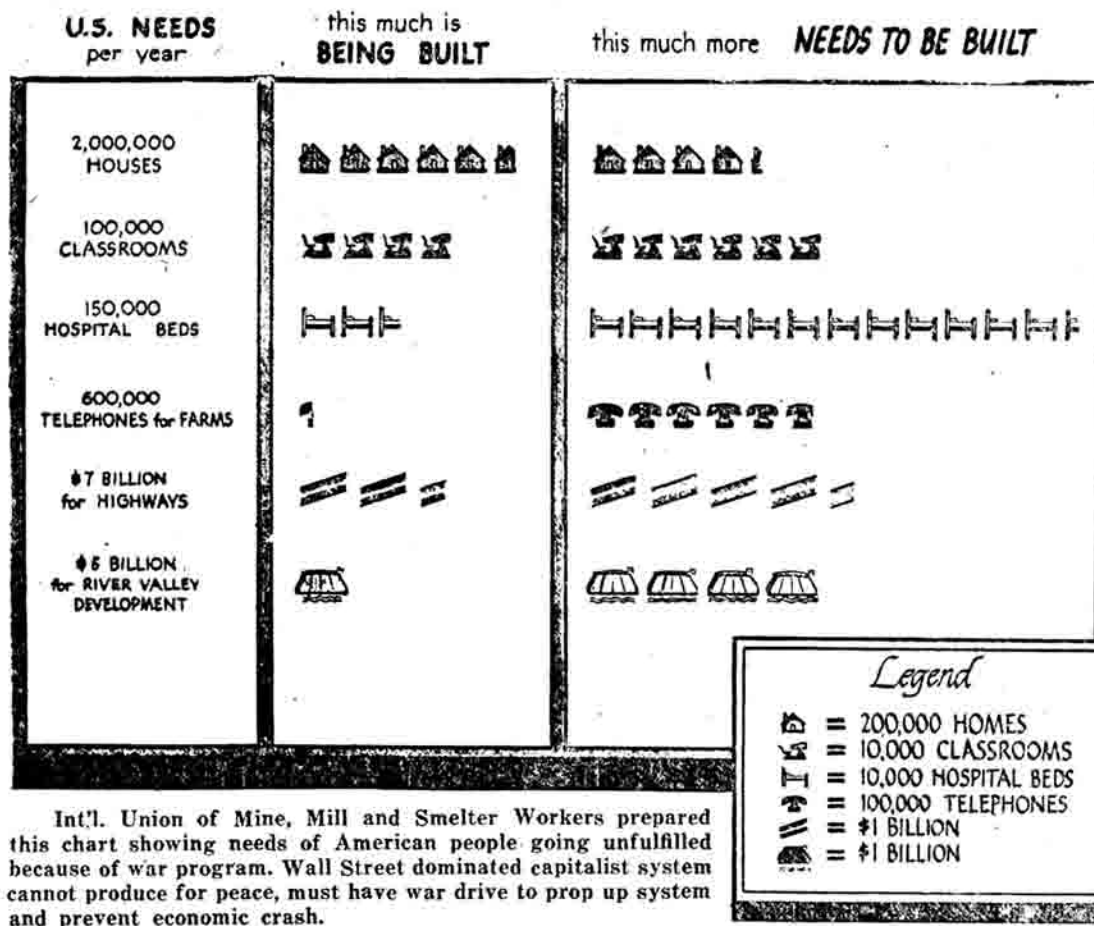
"Yes," his wife went on, and she really looked tired. "It's hit us too. With three kids it'll be a headache, but it looks like the only way out." And she explained: "I'm going back to soldering at a radio factory."

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Production: Needs and Fulfillment



Int'l. Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers prepared this chart showing needs of American people going unfulfilled because of war program. War Street dominated capitalist system cannot produce for peace, must have war drive to prop up system and prevent economic crash.

LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT WORKERS SOLID IN 3-WEEK UNION SHOP, PAY STRIKE

By Ernest Rief

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 21 — The 25,000 workers represented by District 727 of the International Association of Machinists are now entering the third week of their strike against Lockheed aircraft.

The union's original demands included an 18 cent an hour average wage increase plus a full union shop and other fringe benefits. Average pay now is about \$1.70 per hour. The company's refusal to offer more than a two-cent raise led to the union's action after the membership voted 99% in favor of strike action. Efforts of federal mediator Cyrus Ching were ineffective as the company stuck to its two-cent offer.

Mass picket lines were immediately set up at all gates of the four plants but, after a few days the company secured an injunction limiting the pickets to one each fifteen feet. However very few scabs crossed the lines and the morale of the strikers remains high. Those entering are

mostly supervisors, office personnel and members of the Engineers and Architects Association, an independent union which is bound by a no-strike clause. This union has donated \$450 to the IAM strike fund.

Picket lines are being enforced by truck and cab drivers of the AFL Teamsters Union. Buses carrying employees of Lockheed stop at the gates and force their fares to walk in.

THWART CAMERAS

In an attempt to intimidate pickets Lockheed set up a raised platform over the picket lines at their main gate to take movies, but this was thwarted when pickets used mirrors to reflect sunlight into the camera lenses. Fortunately the strikers are being considered eligible for state unemployment compensation, though this has not usually been the case in other strikes in California. The union's Welfare Committee is taking care of food problems, emergency payments the strikers have to meet, etc.

Since the start of the strike, Lockheed has raised its wage offer to seven cents plus a penny or two cost-of-living bonus. Then it offered nine cents on the lowest wage rates (this would affect few people since not many

are at the lowest rates of about \$1.25 per hour). The union then lowered its demand to a 14 cents increase.

SCORES COMPANY

Ten days after the start of the strike, John Snider, district union president, charged that the company not only had failed to offer any constructive suggestions but had even repudiated agreements reached before the strike began and rights which have been in the contract as long as 14 years.

In the face of this adamant company position union officials are asking for government intervention which would put the men back to work under the old contract and set up a fact-finding board. They feel this board would recommend a better settlement than the company offers. The union leaders thus appear ready to accept any miserable compromise as long as it is "better than the company offers."

Need Labor Power

While Mexican workers enter the U.S. illegally by the thousands lured by false promises about high wages in American fields, Mexican capitalists and landlords are advertising in Italy for agricultural workers.

Vatican Views with Alarm

By Joseph Hansen

Pope Pius XII recovered last week from a high temperature due apparently to a slight gastric infection. The 76-year-old head of the Vatican City State then issued a statement expressing alarm over the dwindling number of women in recent years who become nuns. The crisis in nunneries, he said, is "extremely grave" in some European countries where the number of women forswearing marriage and taking vows has been reduced to half.

He severely censured those who "no longer have a single word of approbation or praise for the virginity devoted to Christ" and included in his censure those who "give marriage a preference in principle over virginity."

To encourage women to enter nunneries, the Supreme Pontiff authorized some changes in the nuns' traditional dress to make it more comfortable and hygienic.

Finally, commenting on "sexual neuroses" and their cure, the Pope condemned "the pansexual method of a certain school of psychoanalysis." He did not forbid or condemn psychotherapeutic cure in general; he only disapproved the "amoral way in which this cure is applied in practice."

The head of the Roman Catholic Church did not reveal what he meant by "sexual" neurosis or "pansexual" method; nor did he specify what school of psychoanalysis had brought down his

condemnation. However, his reference can be interpreted in the light of a sermon delivered in New York Mar. 9, 1947, by Msgr. Fulton J. Sheehan. The American Catholic spokesman aroused energetic protest in scientific circles when he misrepresented and denounced the views of Sigmund Freud, founder of psychoanalysis, from the pulpit of St. Patrick's Cathedral.

"Freudianism," said the Monsignor, "is based upon four assumptions, materialism, hedonism, infantilism and eroticism" and "it denies sin, and would supplant confession."

By coincidence, on the very same day the Pope was suffering from his gastric disturbance, another holy authority took up additional evils worshipping the Roman Catholic hierarchy. "The universal aspiration of the present time," said Pedro Cardinal Segura of Spain, "may be summed up in one magical word, which has succeeded in seducing people — liberty."

The Cardinal denounced freedom of thought, freedom of press and freedom of religion as "liberties of perdition" responsible for the "great evils of the world." The Roman Catholic Church, he reminded the world, "condemns" freedom of religion "in an energetic and decisive manner."

He called on God to "preserve us from all these evils surrounding us... and keep us faithful to the fundamentals... and doctrinal practices of the Holy Church."

Joseph Larimer

The Chicago branch of the Socialist Workers Party is mourning the loss of Comrade Joseph Larimer, 30 years old, who died on Sept. 20. He had been stricken with polio eight days before.

Joe joined the Chicago branch in 1950 and from the first played an active and important role. He gave generously of his talents in various fields of party work.

His main interest was educational activity. He recently collaborated with other comrades in preparing a new type of class outline for party recruits. His last assignment — which death interrupted — was the testing of this outline in teaching a class of recruits the fundamental doctrines of the revolutionary socialist movement.

During World War II, Joe became concerned about the ravages of imperialist wars and the fate of the great majority under capitalism. Shortly after his discharge from the army, he decided, though he came from a fairly well-to-do family, to join the poor and oppressed in the struggle for a better world.

While a student at Dartmouth University he first became interested in the Norman Thomas Socialist Party. In 1948, he joined the Progressive Party and then the Communist Party in Chicago. But earlier contact he had had with the SWP and its ideas helped him to overcome the illusory Wallacite notions and to recognize the treacherous role of the CP in the American class struggle. Subsequent discussion with the SWP members won him over to our movement.

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New York Friday Night Forum

The Dilemma of U.S. Foreign Policy:

All Roads Lead to Ruin

Speaker: Harry Frankel

Fri., Oct. 3, 8 PM

MILITANT HALL
116 University Place

Detroit Rent Hogs Win; Reuther Ducks Fight

DETROIT, Sept. 22 — Detroit city officials have surrendered to the pressure of real estate and landlord interests by voting to let rent controls die at the end of this month. This will leave one-quarter of a million tenants and their families in this important industrial center at the mercy of greedy landlords.

Although controls do not die until Sept. 30, landlords have already served notice on tenants of rent increases ranging, in some cases, as high as 140%. In reply to complaints by tenants, Detroit Office of Rent Stabilization has stated that it is already out of business. Tenants' complaints submitted many weeks ago will be ignored, since the entire office is closing.

Powerful sentiment against the end of rent controls was shown at a public hearing which was packed by 1,000 people, only 500 of whom were able to get into the small city council chambers. Well over a million anxious people are reported to have watched the hearing on television.

Howard Lerner, Detroit chairman of the Socialist Workers Party, expressed the sentiments of the vast majority of the people of this city when he stated in a telegram to the hearing: "The need of the hour in Detroit is retention of rent control for tenants and a shift in the tax burden from the small homeowner to the giant corporations and the millionaire real estate interests."

CASE FOR RENT CONTROL

Supporters of rent control from labor, liberal, tenant, consumer, veteran and religious organizations spoke with great effectiveness. They proved that there is a serious housing shortage in Detroit (under the law this should be enough to warrant continuation of controls), and they proved that decontrol would hit the low-income and Negro sections of the population first and hardest.

Speaking for the CIO were Emil Mazey, secretary-treasurer of the

United Auto Workers, and Al Barbour, secretary-treasurer of the Wayne County CIO Council. The AFL was represented by Frank X. Martel, president of the Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor, Finlay Allen, secretary of the Detroit Building Trades Council, and Mary E. Kestead of the Detroit Federation of Teachers.

Emil Mazey predicted that rents would go up from 30 to 70 percent if controls were lifted, calling this a 10-cent hourly wage-cut for approximately 250,000 Detroit workers. He went on to say that if this had happened in the plants, it would have caused an immediate shutdown.

PUT ON THE POOR ACT

James Inglis, former Detroit housing director, exposed one of the real estate interests' favorite tricks by quoting from a letter by Arthur Bassett of the Detroit Trust Company to Hubert Nelson of the National Real Estate Board in which Bassett said that the case for decontrol would be helped "if we parade a few small property owners, a little bedraggled and run down at the heels, to show that controls were working hardships on the small owner."

Ed Turner, president of the Detroit branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said that Negroes would be hard hit by decontrol because they are restricted by limited job opportunities and lower incomes. He blasted discrimination in the assignment of public housing.

Labor in Detroit has the power to halt the rent gouge, but unfortunately, up to the present, the officialdom of the union movement has merely made the record. The responsibility for this rests upon the CIO alliance with the Democratic Party.

In the city council, a minority of councilmen put in office with CIO support advocated a "compromise" solution. This consisted of a recommendation that a 10%

Fake Crime Wave Used to Cover Up N.Y. Cop Scandals

By Harry Ring

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 — "The phony 'crime wave' dreamed up by the cops and the daily press and fanned with screaming headlines about 'burly Negro' rapists and

muggers, is a deliberate attempt to divert attention from New York's graft-ridden police department, rehabilitate the force in the eyes of the public and, under cover of this rotten pretext, step up police brutality in Harlem," Michael Bartell, Socialist Workers nominee for the U.S. Senate, charged today.

"The hysteria-breeding headlines about muggers and about 'All Out War on Sex Offenders' may sell more copies of the capitalist papers," Bartell continued, "but the whole dirty hoax is exploded by Police Commissioner Monaghan's admission that between August 1 and Sept. 15 of last year there were 147 complaints of rape and attempted rape in the city. During the same period of this year, that is, during the present 'assault wave,' the number dropped to 138!"

"New York's police department has been in the headlines for several years as scandal after scandal came to light. They need a whitewashing job bad," Bartell charged. "If the cops and press succeed in building up the hysteria, Monaghan's club-and-trigger-happy hoodlums in uniform can once again pose as New York's 'finest' as they go about their daily routine of sadistic attacks on innocent Negroes."

The ominous meaning of this manufactured crime scare for the city's Negro population has been pointed up by Ted Poston in the Sept. 18 N.Y. Post. He cites two instructive instances of the mounting anti-Negro hysteria: "A well-dressed Negro came out of an apartment house on Fifth Ave. and started walking down Park Ave. to a parked car. A middle-aged white woman, also walking down Park Ave., rushed across the street to a policeman."

Another white man moved into the seat vacated by the woman and offered his name and address to the Negro should a witness be needed to prove that nothing had happened. The Negro thanked him but said it wasn't necessary.

The white man was apologetic. "I know how you feel," he said, "and some fool like that can cause trouble. If you need me, I'll be glad to help you out, Mr. cr-r-r."

"Poston," the Negro said. "Ted Poston of the N.Y. Post."

Poston concludes his article with a statement by Ashley Totten, Secretary-Treasurer of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. "It's not a matter of who is to blame in individual cases — hysterical women, overzealous police, or circulation seeking newspapers. But a situation is developing in our town and somebody better do something about it — before it's too late."

"Officer," she begged, "help me. That man — that Negro there — is following me!"

Poston then reports the dialogue between the cop, with his hand on his pistol, and the Negro. "What d'you mean molesting that woman?" the cop demanded. "What woman?" the Negro asked, "and what do you mean molesting?"

rise be granted in rents on all dwelling units, and that controls be taken off two-family dwellings and luxury apartments. This proposal merely convinced the landlords that there was no serious opposition to their greed.

Council President Miranis, one of the CIO-backed politicians, said after the vote: "Controls are off at the end of the month, and the door is closed so far as I am concerned to any future discussion on the subject."

REUTHER CLAMS UP

Walter Reuther, head of the UAW-CIO, had occasion to speak twice on the radio during the rent control fight. While he had plenty of time for a whitewashing of the Democratic Party and its ticket, he couldn't find a minute to devote to rent control. Governor Williams, touted by the top labor officials as a "friend of labor" rejected a plea by State Senator Charles S. Blundy for a special

session of the legislature to impose a state rent control law. In the only major midwestern city where rents have been decontrolled, Milwaukee, it has been reported by Mayor Zeidler that rents jumped an average of 25%.

"Rents for moderate homes," he said, "are far beyond the means of the ordinary working man. It's not unusual for landlords to demand \$100 to \$125 (a month) for small, modest homes."

On the heels of the Detroit rent blow came still another directed against the working people: Detroit Street Railway fares have been raised a nickel to 20c, a ride.

High Prices Stir Action in Ceylon

A mass campaign against high prices through the formation of local Action Committees has been launched in Ceylon by the Lanka Sama Samaja Party.

\$18,600 FUND SCOREBOARD

Branch	Pledge	Paid	Percent
Connecticut	\$ 125	\$ 137	110
Allentown	40	43	108
Cleveland	300	306	102
Akron	150	150	100
Boston	500	500	100
Buffalo	1,500	1,500	100
Chicago	1,500	1,500	100
Pittsburgh	40	40	100
St. Louis	50	50	100
Seattle	400	400	100
Newark	1,000	968	97
Minneapolis-St. Paul	1,500	1,344	90
New York	4,500	4,000	89
Flint	300	256	85
Philadelphia	350	298	85
San Francisco	900	748	83
Detroit	2,113	1,638	78
Youngstown	400	240	60
Oakland	300	170	57
Milwaukee	325	180	55
Los Angeles	2,200	1,100	50
General	150	379	253
Total through Sept. 22	\$18,600	\$15,947	86

Notes from the News

JIM FIGGINS, general secretary of the British National Union of Railwaymen, told a meeting: "The war in Korea is not being fought for freedom and democracy but in the interests of American capital. Before America lies inevitable defeat. . . . If we are going to be so stupid as to lay down our lives in a great war for interests that don't concern us, we are bigger fools than I think we are. . . . The next war will be a holocaust and I am going to stand out against it." Slogans he suggested were: "Out of Korea come the British troops" and "Out of Britain go the American troops."

32 MILLION CHILDREN are now crowded into grade and high schools in this country. One out of every five is attending school in "buildings that do not meet minimum standards of safety against fire," says U.S. News & World Report. Almost two million are forced into makeshift classrooms in store buildings, etc. Fourteen million suffer from overcrowded classrooms. And the situation is getting worse year by year.

A POLL AMONG FARMERS taken by Wallace's Farmer and Iowa Homestead found these interesting results: Asked which major party was most likely to keep the Korean war from expanding into a world war, 41% said "neither party." 49% said neither party could be expected to head off a depression; and 36% thought neither party would stop inflation.

ROBERT W. SAUNDERS of Tampa, veteran of World War II, former newspaperman in Cin-

cinnati and factory worker in Detroit where he was active in the CIO United Auto Workers, is a brave man. He has just accepted employment as Florida field secretary of the NAACP, to replace Harry T. Moore, murdered by a bomb last Christmas for his militant fight against Jim Crow terrorism.

FARM INCOME, which had declined sharply in the first six months of this year from last year's levels, was sliced again in the period from July 15 to August 15. According to the Department of Agriculture, the farmers were not getting more money for their basic crops but the prices they have to pay have kept rising.

NEGROES PAY 25% to 30% more rent for homes in slum areas than whites living in equally poor housing, the Research Bureau of the Social Planning Council of St. Louis has discovered.

SENATOR NIXON'S SOAP OPERA brought a flood of telegrams to the Republican National Committee. One read: "Keep Senator Nixon," and was signed "Cocker Spaniel Lover."

THE AFL CONVENTION heard only scheduled speeches save in a few instances where individual delegates had enough courage to demand the floor. Frank Turco of the Seattle newsboys compared West Coast teamster dictator, Dave Beck, to Senator McCarthy. A. Philip Randolph insisted on discussing civil rights. Another delegate criticised the AFL's bureaucratic custom of electing all its vice-presidents in a bloc.