

VOTE THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY TICKET ON NOV. 2

Vol. XVIII—No. 39

267

Build a Labor Party Now!

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1954

PRICE: 10 CENTS

McCarthy Is Set To Fix Blame on GOP for Defeats

By L. P. Wheeler

The disgust of millions of workers and farmers with the "accomplishments" of the Eisenhower administration is being exploited for all it is worth by the Democratic Party vote-catching machine. Working people feel they have no real choice between the two parties of Big Business. But in the absence of a Labor Party they try desperately to express their discontent by swinging from one boss party to another. This out-of-the-frying-pan-into-the-fire movement is fostered above all by the labor officials who have long stood in the way

of the formation of an independent Labor Party.

Now it appears that the pent up rage of the American people with "localized depressions," mass unemployment, slashes in farm income, witch hunting, union busting, war mongering and the threat of atomic destruction, is taking the form of a swing to the Democratic Party.

AS MAINE GOES

The Sept. 14 election in Maine showed this swing unmistakably. For the first time in 20 years a Democrat was elected Governor. The Republicans say this was due to "local circumstances." They alibi that the Republican incumbent, Burton Cross, was unpopular. This lame explanation is refuted by the sharp increase of Democratic votes in the same election in the races for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. Even the "popular" Republican Senator, Margaret Chase Smith, suffered a 12% decline in her vote since the last election. On the whole, the Maine Democrats increased their percentage sufficiently to throw a big scare into the Republican high command. The

(Continued on page 2)

For Freedom



Placard-bearing picket near federal court house in New York, where 16 Puerto Rican Nationalists are on trial under the Smith Act charged with conspiring to overthrow the U. S. government by force and violence, is ordered to "move on" by a policeman. The placard tells what Puerto Rican people want.

Poultry Workers In Texas Fight Boss Terrorism

Violence continues to mark the four-month-old strike against the Denison Poultry Co. and the Eastex Poultry Co. in Center, Texas, by members of the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen.

As reported earlier in this paper, an attempt was made on the life of the international representative in charge of the strike, Allen Williams, when the motel cabin in which he was living was bombed in July. Williams fortunately was not in the cabin at the time of the bombing, which also destroyed his automobile and two cabins near his.

Within the last few days, the union reports, two Negro pickets were beaten by Texas rangers. In addition, a barn on the property of a striker was burned to the ground.

The strikers are demanding a union agreement enforcing decent wages and working conditions. They are also demanding that the "shipments of diseased poultry to an unsuspecting buying public" be stopped. The international union is carrying on a campaign to secure federal inspection of poultry similar to the practice in the meat industry.

(See page 3 for expose of poultry industry.)

Square D Strike Showdown Looms as Challenge to Labor

Labor Majority Backs A Shorter Work Week

For years The Militant has been advocating the program of the shorter work week with no reduction in weekly take-home pay as the most immediately effective answer to mass unemployment. This program has now been adopted by the largest section of organized labor and has become a red-hot issue throughout the union movement.

At the American Federation of Labor convention, which opened Sept. 20 in Los Angeles, the AFL Executive Council proposed a campaign for a federal law to reduce the legal work-week from 40 to 35 hours, with the

employers required to pay time and one-half for all work over 35 hours a week.

The AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union in the past year has signed a number of contracts with the 35-hour clause and increases of hourly pay rates to maintain weekly incomes at previous levels.

One of the AFL's largest affiliates, the 625,000-member International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, adopted at its recent Chicago convention an even stronger version of the shorter work week program as its bargaining goal for 1955.

The IBEW delegates called on its member locals to seek in forthcoming negotiations the 30-hour week, stating that employers could "cut the work week without cutting... weekly pay."

A DISCORDANT NOTE

The single major discordant note on the issue of the shorter work week is being struck by CIO President Walter Reuther, although important locals of the United Automobile Workers, which he also heads, have been campaigning for the 39-hour week at 40 hours' pay. The giant Ford Local 600 and several General Motors locals are officially on record for the shorter work week.

Reuther, however, has gone out of his way to misrepresent the objectives of the shorter work week and to present false arguments against it. He has done this to put in a better light his own peculiar program for the "guaranteed annual wage" which he represents as the best and only answer on the problem of unemployment.

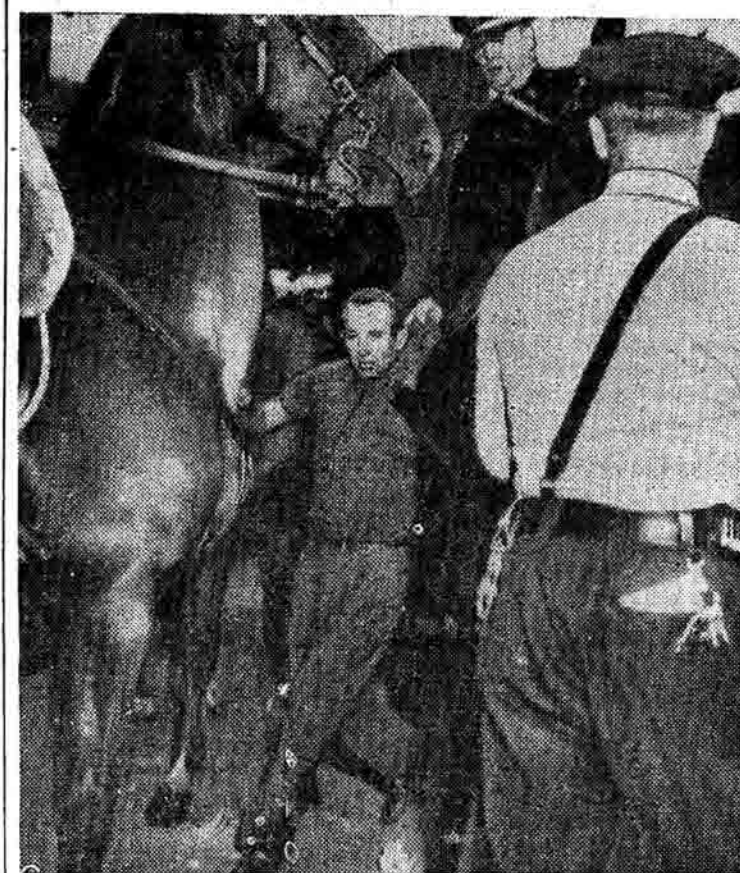
Reuther took an underhanded swipe at the campaign for the shorter work week under guise of being for it "in principle." At the Boston convention of the United Rubber Workers, Reuther attacked the shorter work-day—six-hour day, five-day week—and said he was for the eight-hour day, four-day week. But he claimed the workers should seek this only to "achieve more leisure time to enjoy benefits they have won, not because they are desperately trying to create more jobs in a declining economy."

MORE JOBS NEEDED

We recall that the biggest fight and the biggest gain in winning a shorter work week in modern times came in the late Thirties, precisely when millions were unemployed and already had "leisure" time. They wanted jobs. And they fought to win them by cutting the work-week from 48 and more hours, at standard time, to 40 hours by law.

We have the strong suspicion that Reuther plans to get his "guaranteed annual wage" next year by making big concessions to the corporations. Among these may be another five-year contract, which will tie the union's hands for a long period. Meanwhile, there are already 25,000 auto workers out of jobs. What will the guaranteed annual wage do to restore their employment? The shorter work-week will give at least a partial and temporary solution, while Reuther offers none at all.

Detroit Police Strikebreaking



Mounted cops remove a picket from struck Square D plant in Detroit. Police violence and scabberding aroused the CIO United Automobile Workers members to swell the picketlines of the striking United Electrical Workers, independent. See story in next column.

All Unions Threatened In Detroit

DETROIT, Sept. 23 — A showdown fight between the bosses and the organized labor movement here is rapidly shaping up around the Square D strike. Employers and unions from coast-to-coast are watching the progress of the struggle.

Last night Circuit Judge Frank B. Ferguson, who issued an injunction against mass picketing by the embattled independent United Electrical Workers Local 957, slapped another injunction on the CIO United Automobile Workers and all other organizations and individuals interested in the strike, restraining them from engaging in mass picketing.

This was taken here to signify a formal declaration of war against the entire Detroit labor movement, including both AFL and CIO unions who have rallied to the aid of the 1,200 Square D workers.

The new injunction was accompanied by a query from the judge to Gov. Williams on the possibility of using state police to reinforce the local club-swinging cops.

In addition, the judge invoked Michigan's riot act, thus giving legal sanction to possible use of violence by the police against the pickets.

These moves by Judge Ferguson abruptly reversed the role he assumed after powerful union locals sent Flying Squadrons to aid the Square D strikers. For a few days he tried to appear as an impartial arbiter and sought a few minor concessions from the company to match the major ones already granted by United Electrical Workers. Now he has taken off the velvet gloves.

His actions were coordinated with a new attempt by the police, the press, and government officials to renew and step up the red-baiting that has marked this strike from the first.

BEGIN NEW ARRESTS

Day before yesterday police resumed making arrests. They swooped down on a carload of pickets allegedly trailing would-be scabs who had responded to Square D advertisements calling for strikebreakers.

The five pickets were listed by the papers as Allen Stewart, Victor Altherr, James Petroff, David Handel and Fred Halsted. The police claim that they found two suitcases, or two bushel baskets (depending on which paper you read) in the car loaded with "communist" literature. They also said they found a 22-caliber pellet gun along with the literature, and a "Molotov cocktail bomb."

James Petroff was first said to have been carrying a "Russian passport." This was later amended to a Yugoslav passport and then to a Yugoslav "work permit."

All five were charged with attempted armed robbery and carrying concealed weapons. They have been held without bail since their arrest and the papers report that they are to be questioned by the Detroit "loyalty" squad.

SMELLS LIKE FRAME-UP

To seasoned union militants this smells like the raw frame-ups of the Thirties when the bosses were doing everything possible to block organization of the basic industries.

Yesterday more arrests were made. This time the police took Paul Silver, president of UAW-CIO Local 351, holding him for investigation of felonious assault. They alleged he had a rock in his hand and made a menacing move toward a strikebreaker.

(Continued on page 2)

Kutcher Defense Rally Hears Warren Billings

By R. Gale

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 14 — Warren K. Billings, co-defendant with Tom Mooney in the famous World War I frameup case, was one of the principal speakers at the

meeting held in defense of James Kutcher last Saturday by the Kutcher Civil Rights Committee.

Billings, who spent decades in prison for his militant labor activity, told how he had been fighting for civil liberties all his life. "Civil liberties is not something that you can fight for once in a while," he said. "It is something you have to fight for all the time. I have been fighting as long as I can remember and expect to continue as long as I live."

He also noted that lately he has not been speaking as much as he did in the past "because meetings of this kind are all too few these days — not because there are no civil liberties cases, but because of fear."

Another speaker was the civil liberties attorney, George Olshausen, who explained the threat of the "subversive" blacklist to all Americans:

"NO ONE IS SAFE"

"No one is safe today because this list is designed not only to make any past associations you may have had suspect, but also to keep you from joining any new organizations that may spring up. No one can guarantee that the organization you belong to today, which is not on the list, will not show up on it tomorrow. One of the major aims of the list is to intimidate the people and prevent them from protesting against government persecution."

Laurent Frantz, legal research scholar, student of constitution-

al law and writer for the Nation, drew parallels from history to demonstrate the reactionary character of the witch hunt. Citing examples from medieval days when ideas were persecuted brutally, he said:

"We find cases very similar to our present witch hunt. In those days they were known as heretics. A heretic was a person who did not accept every single word spoken by the priests as gospel truth. Today the heretics are the communists and the high priests are the McCarthyites."

Kutcher himself, who is now on a national speaking tour, was present and spoke on the relation between the fight against McCarthyism and his six-year fight to recover the clerical government job from which he was purged because of his membership in the Socialist Workers Party.

"When my case began," he noted, "McCarthy was virtually unknown; today he is rightly known all over the world as the leading spokesman for American fascism. When the Attorney General labeled the Socialist Workers Party as 'subversive' without a hearing and without evidence, he set the stage for McCarthy. The Attorney General did not cite any 'subversive' acts committed by my party; McCarthy went him one better and said the Democrats had already committed treason for 20 years. That's the logic of the witch hunt—it creates the precedents and clears the ground for fascism."

"Sick" Industries -- A National Epidemic

By Joseph Keller

Mass unemployment, hunger and general misery in the coal mining areas give a preview of what a major depression will mean for the American working class as a whole. Gov. William Marland said recently: "Here in West Virginia we've gone right back to the Thirties."

Commenting on Gov. Marland's statement, Stewart Alsop reported from West Virginia in his Sept. 3 syndicated column that "employment in the mines is lower than in the depths of the depression." In the last two years "the number of indigent persons certified for free surplus food has risen in West Virginia from 12,000 to 160,000." Between 40,000 and 50,000 miners in the state are jobless and many thousands are working only two or three days a week.

Alsop predicts that "what is happening here is a pale foretaste of the bitterness which would engulf the country, des-

troying the President's capacity to lead, perhaps even tearing apart the fabric of the American political system, if another economic depression were allowed to happen. This is the warning of West Virginia."

It has become customary to refer to coal as a "sick industry," implying the existence of special conditions that find no parallel in other industries. Coal mining, however, merely suffers an extreme form of a sickness that is prevalent—epidemic, in fact—through the entire productive system of the United States.

John W. Love, business commentator of the Cleveland Press, suggested some further "sick" industries. "Those economists who have been looking closest at employment wonder whether all industries can be expected to take back the workers they had in 1953. Sick spots appear in the pattern. Coal mining is sour, farm machinery waits for farmers' incomes to rise substantial-

ly, and railroads are well equipped."

The "sickness" in agriculture directly affects more than five million farmers and farm laborers, plus their families. This has wiped out the jobs of many thousands of workers in the farm equipment industry, which was the first manufacturing field to feel the economic decline last year.

But do other, and presumably more "healthy," industries give a much better picture of vigor and well-being?

Steel, that most basic of industries, is operating somewhere in the neighborhood of only 66% of capacity. About 10 months ago, when the industry observed "Dave McDonald Day" in honor of the CIO United Steel Workers President, steel company officials predicted that the industry this year would be operating at an average of 80 to 85% of capacity.

But even with steel produc-

tion cut almost a third and several hundred thousand steel workers unemployed or on part time, the steel owners find the industry "in good shape." For, as Walter Gutman explains in the Sept. 18 N.Y. World-Telegram, "profits are good and the stockholders happy. Profits per ton for one major company were a good 10 percent higher in the second quarter than in the first even though shipments were about 10 percent lower."

But the industry looks plenty sick to the steel workers. Gutman notes that the reason for the improved profits with lower shipments "is that overtime was wiped out, the working staff cut to the bone resulting in a 'sweet operation' at 70 to 75% of capacity."

"How sweet this will look when the votes are counted in November is another story. Workers in the mills exercise their muscles only 35 hours a week and even with higher hour-

ly rates they are not rich." Passing over the "not rich" as the understatement of the year, we note how the steel bosses have the industry geared to keep their profits rolling in with production curtailed 30%.

In that other key industry, auto, it is sufficient to report that production for the week ending Sept. 18 dropped to the lowest point since Nov. 1953 and 14% below the Labor Day holiday-shortened week, the previous weekly low for the year. That's not exactly bouncing health.

When you examine the figures on industrial production as a whole during August and early September, the economic diagnosis is, as the Sept. 19 "Financial Week" column of the N.Y. Times observed, "disappointing." Output has continued at a "stable" 10% below a year ago. It would seem that whatever the coal industry has, it's catching. It's name is "private profititis."

Is McCarthy Another Hitler?

By Murry Weiss

Is there a valid analogy between McCarthy and Hitler? We were the first to say there was. But analogies, however valid, can be of value only in the context of a concrete analysis of a given social, economic and political situation.

The trouble with the debate between the ex-radical Will Herberg (New Republic, Aug. 23) and those he attacks (news columnist Marquis Childs and Sen. Flanders) is that neither side attempts such an analysis. Flanders and Childs content themselves with noticing a few striking similarities between McCarthy's and Hitler's political roles; while Herberg seizes on a number of superficial differences, ignoring or simply dismissing the similarities.

Last week I listed seven of the arguments Herberg cited in favor of the Hitler-McCarthy parallel and indicated his objections to the arguments as well as his method in answering them. Actually Herberg cited eight arguments. His method is perhaps best illustrated by the way he handles this eighth one in the list.

Sen. Flanders (R-Vt.) contended that McCarthy, like Hitler, is setting up his "private police force and spy system." Ordinarily, Herberg uses only one of his two debating tricks to take care of an argument. He either dismisses a point out of hand, or disposes of it with a shallow sophistry. In this case he employs both tricks simultaneously:

"McCarthy, as far as I know, does not yet possess a private army or police force, as did Hitler in his rise to power, and his 'spy system' is something not altogether new in American political history."

Thus the "private army or police force" is taken care of by a mere wave of the hand. Herberg doesn't see it. Presto! It doesn't exist. As for the McCarthy "spy system" it is disposed of by dissolving it into a generality: it is "not altogether new." And that takes care of that.

McCarthy's "INVESTIGATORS"

Does McCarthy have a private police force? How else can we describe the "investigators" who work for McCarthy's committee? During the Army-McCarthy TV hearings the whole country watched this police force in operation.

Who are these picture croppers, document fixers, forgers, keepers of the blackmail files, and second-story men? Wasn't it evident to everyone that the Surines, Julianos, Schines, Carrs, etc., were responsible to no one but McCarthy? Didn't the Democratic minority members of McCarthy's committee expose the fact that no one but McCarthy controlled this staff?

It is a publicly recorded fact that in addition to the staff of the McCarthy Committee working on the Senate payroll, and the "volunteers," there are the "investigators" who officially are on McCarthy's personal staff. They are paid by donations from "patriotic citizens." Just recently, when Donald Surine, the sinister ex-FBI McCarthy operative, was forced off the official payroll, McCarthy announced that he would retain his services for his "private staff."

But this is different from what Hitler had, Herberg may argue. Hitler didn't have the cover of the German parliament to build his private police force. Of course, it is different. It is a difference that favors McCarthy. The American fascists hold a powerful position in the Senate, with all the privileges and immunities granted this most aristocratic and uncontrolled branch of the capitalist government. Actually, Hitler also utilized every legal institution and cover he could get. Remember that Hitler took power "legally."

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

gally." And he maintained the Weimar constitution as a useful legal fiction.

FASCIST SPY NET

Does McCarthy's spy net have a fascist character? Herberg doesn't think so. He is blind to the meaning of this spy net because he will not see it in connection with all the other aspects of McCarthy's drive for power.

McCarthy's appeal for informants in the military and government agencies, repeatedly and publicly proclaimed, is not the same thing as the inter-office gossip and information exchange maintained by run-of-the-mill capitalist politicians. McCarthy's spy net, like the personal police force, must be viewed in the light of his political function before its real meaning is apparent.

Thus: McCarthy's charge of "20 . . . or 21 years of treason" against the Democrats and the Eisenhower administration, is the central theme of his fascist propaganda. Hitler used this theme after World War I. For Hitler, "14 years of shame and treason" was the slogan for rallying the German middle class discontented over the bitter results of military defeat.

McCarthy exploits the growing alarm and bitterness of the American middle class over the world-wide defeats of American imperialism. He insistently pounds on the theme: Why did we lose 800 million people to the "Communists?" And the answer, "21 years of treason," is a call to drive out the traitorous regime of the Democrats and the Republicans and put a McCarthyite "Save America" regime in power.

The treason charge, built on the model of Hitler's stab-in-the-back myth, motivates McCarthy's drive to build a mass movement, get the support of every fascist organization in the country, link together a network of veteran, student, and vigilante groups into a McCarthyite front, raise money for his private army of investigators, penetrate the police departments, and set himself up in the eyes of the American people as the enemy of the powers that be, the crusading battler against treason and corruption in high places.

McCarthy AND HITLER

Instead of seeing the various traits and symptoms of McCarthyism against the background of its political role, Herberg separates each "feature" and flicks them out of his way.

McCarthy exploits the "Communist menace" just as Hitler did. Herberg replies: "If 'exploiting' the issue of Communism makes one a Hitler because 'Hitler exploited the issue of Communism and on it rode to power,' then McCarthy is not the only 'Hitler' in American politics."

McCarthy receives financial support from the Texas oil barons. Herberg: "Even more ludicrous is the indictment of McCarthy as a Hitler because he receives financial support from wealthy businessmen; where does Mr. Flanders think the leading candidates of his party get their financial support?"

Herberg doesn't stop to think that by this kind of juggling he could prove that Hitler wasn't a fascist.

Hitler exploited the "Communist" issue demagogically—but so did the other capitalist and Social Democratic politicians in Germany.

Hitler received financial support from wealthy businessmen. But so did the other capitalist politicians. And so on. So why call Hitler a fascist?

The source of Herberg's confused twisting and squirming is his own false criteria for determining whether or not a movement is fascist and his "diagnosis" of McCarthy as a "free swinging soldier of fortune" lacking all the essential ingredients of a fascist leader. (Second of a series of articles.)

The Scab as a "Hero"

By Joseph Keller

We can learn much about a society by studying its heroes. In past ages, as in ancient Greece, the hero was often a mythical god endowed with special powers or virtues. Throughout the history of class societies, conquerors and rulers have most frequently been glorified. But never before present-day capitalism have the police spy, paid informer, strikebreaker and scab been held up as worthy of emulation.

It used to be that not even the capitalist ruling class could express any feeling but loathing for the scum they hired to do their dirty work against the organized workers and political opposition. Back before World War II there was a magnificent movie, "The Informer," with Victor McLaglen, which illustrated this universal contempt for stoolpigeons. McLaglen, who plays the role of an informer against the Irish revolutionaries, is shown in one scene receiving money from a British officer. The latter puts the money on the table with an expression of disgust and contempt. He pays the informer, but despises him.

Decayed American capitalism

of today has given us a new type of hero, unique in history. Creatures formerly detested by rulers and ruled alike are held up as heroes, to be honored and rewarded and, above all, emulated by the people.

We have discussed several times recently the heroic buildup given to paid stoolpigeons who have testified against "Communists" in the McCarthyite inquisitions and the Smith Act trials. Characters like Louis Budenz, Whitaker Chambers and Elizabeth Bentley have made lucrative careers out of serving as "witnesses." Their books are given a big play; they get jobs as professors and lecturers; the capitalist press hails them as "patriots." One such "patriot," Paul Crouch, recently complained when the Justice Department cut off his nearly \$5,000 annual payoff as its top anti-"Communist" witness after he was exposed as a perjurer.

But now the informer has to move over to make room for the supreme hero of capitalism, the scab. Back in the Thirties, you will recall, the boss papers used to call the scabs the "loyal workers." But everyone understood this meant loyalty to the labor exploiter, the company that was being struck. Today, however,

the filthy scab has become a public hero, a "patriot" fighting "Communism."

That's the boast of a group of finks whose signatures are reproduced in a "back-to-work" ad in the Detroit newspapers addressed to the striking Square D workers. It is an open invitation to scabbery, to "come in now and go to work with us" and "not to believe all the false things your union leaders have told you."

Scabbing? What a nasty word to apply to sterling "patriots" who claim "we're working to make Square D a good place to work — an AMERICAN plant . . ." This invitation to "patriotism" is made especially tempting with the assurance: "Don't worry about . . . intimidation and threats. The Detroit police are giving us fine protection . . ." Are they scabs? Heaven forbid. "WE'RE FIGHTING COMMUNISM. WE'RE NOT CROSSING A PICKET LINE — WE'RE CROSSING A COMMUNIST LINE. AND WE'RE PROUD OF IT!"

Here's a formula for elevating the vilest of all crimes, scabbery, to the nobility of professions. You can now steal the bread from the mouths of honest workers' families, take strikers' jobs,

work hand-in-glove with the bosses and police against the union, but you won't be scabbing. No, you'll only be defending your country against "Communism."

PUT SCAB ON PEDESTAL

We can feel a grain of pity for the few degraded, demoralized, misled, backward workers who have exposed themselves in this Square D ad to the merited scorn of all the decent people in Detroit. But what we note with alarm is the example of how the press, which ran the ad, and the employers, who really wrote it, play up the scab as a "hero" and "patriot," whom they make synonymous with the fighter against "Communism."

The formula is not exactly new. Back in February 1951, for instance, Truman broke a railway switchmen's strike with the slander that the strikers were acting "like a bunch of Russians." Strikers are "Russians" or "Communists," all "Communists" are "spies and saboteurs," and whoever fights "spies and saboteurs" is a big "patriot." Thus, in the pantheon of capitalism's heroes, the scab is put on the highest pedestal. By this we can measure American capitalism's degeneration.

Baited by McCarthy



Brig. Gen. Ralph Zwicker (right), former commander at Camp Kilmer, N. J., shown with aide at a session of special Senate Committee in Washington probing charges against fascist Sen. Joseph McCarthy. McCarthy called Zwicker a "fifth amendment general" for his refusal to testify before McCarthy's committee on orders from the Pentagon.

... McCarthy Gets Set

(Continued from page 1)
word is out to GOP candidates to "run scared."

U.S. News and World Affairs, Sept. 24, estimates that if the Democrats make the same percentage gains nationally they will win control of both the House and the Senate in November.

This month's primary elections in nine states also indicated a continued trend toward the Democrats. In a number of states the turnout of Democratic voters for the primary elections was significantly larger than the Republican turnout.

At the same time strong McCarthy supporters suffered defeat in a few of the primaries of the Republican Party. Fred Zimmerman in Wisconsin, for example, defeated the McCarthyite candidate Joyce Larkin, who was backed by the state party machine in a race for Secretary of State.

The defeat of a few McCarthyite candidates, although not conclusive, is indicative of the growing mood of opposition to McCarthy. But the conclusion the liberals and labor officials have jumped to—McCarthy is finished—is both irresponsible and dangerous.

HITLER AND FRANCO

The McCarthyite fascist menace must not be measured by the incidental ups and downs of its voting strength. Hitler came to power in Germany right after the Nazis suffered a major election defeat. In Spain Franco conducted a civil war and took power after the people had voted in an overwhelming majority for an electoral "Peoples Front" of workers and anti-fascist capitalist parties.

The American fascists will also refuse to except the verdict of a majority of the electorate. But even more important, instead of prattling nonsense about McCarthy's "finish," the leaders of the workers organizations should be sounding the

alarm at the actual strength the fascist McCarthyites have shown. Despite the fact that McCarthy has during the last few months shown himself before the American people, more clearly than ever before, as a would-be American Hitler, hundreds of thousands still voted for outposts McCarthyites. We must face this fact.

In anticipation of a Republican defeat McCarthy is maneuvering to capitalize by blaming the Republican strategists for failing to use his formula. He wants to be in the position to say: "You lost the election because you were soft on the 'Communist' issue. Now, let me show you how to do it in 1956."

This is the real meaning of McCarthy's curtailed speaking schedule as a Republican campaigner.

STINK BOMB

But the possibility is still strong that the GOP brass, faced with electoral defeat, will once again throw a McCarthyite stink bomb into the elections just as they did last November. At that time they tried to smear ex-president Harry Truman with the corpse of the alleged Russian spy, Harry Dexter White.

Undoubtedly the Republican strategists are pondering the advisability of playing McCarthy as a trump card in a desperate attempt to turn the election tide with an all-out red-smearing wind-up. The elections would then be reduced to a red-baiting contest between the Republicans and Democrats with McCarthy the biggest gainer.

The worst danger is the illusion that a Democratic victory would end the fascist threat and halt the bi-partisan union-busting drive. Only the emancipation of labor from its bondage to the capitalist parties can do that. That's why every worker should support the election campaign of the Socialist Workers Party and vote SWP in November.

... Square D Strike

(Continued from page 1)

They also arrested Ernie Mazey, member of UAW Local 212's Executive Board, as one of four pickets dragged from his car and seized for blocking the parking lot with automobiles.

The FBI was brought in as additional pressure under pretext of "investigating" the supposed "communist" literature found in Petroff's car.

CLARIDY COMES IN

Rep. Kit Clardy, Michigan's own version of Joseph McCarthy, arrived in town to join in the witch hunt. His declaration that the "trouble that broke out" was "no doubt led by Communists" was given a big play in the local red-baiting press.

The Police Commissioner opened up still another front. He called in Carl Stellato, President of UAW Ford Local 600, largest union local in the world, which was among the first to rally to the defense of the Square D strikers, and demanded that the UAW official "cooperate" in getting the "agitators and communists" out of the situation.

Stellato was reported to have responded, "You tell us what to do and you want cooperation. In the interest of the people there's only one thing to do and that's shut down the plant." In breaking off the conversation Stellato reportedly told the Police Commissioner "to avoid calling us the next few days."

This morning the latest inflection was blared to the pickets by the police from loudspeakers but it seemed to have little visible effect. The pickets' response to the attempt to whip up fresh anti-"Communist" hysteria was already indicated by the mounting size of the picket line.

The number coming down each day has doubled and even tripled.

STICK TOUGH

The UAW Locals that took up the cause of the Square D strikers after they had been on the line for eleven weeks have stuck tough under the renewed barrage from the employers and their political agents. They have indicated once again that they consider the grievances of the strikers to be legitimate and that they will continue to support them despite the scare headlines.

The challenge now thrown by the employers at the Detroit labor movement makes the outcome of the Square D battle of great national significance. When the Square D management decided to try to break the strike it was on the assumption that the other unions in the Detroit area would keep hands off in view of the years of smear attacks on the Electrical Workers Union as "communist-dominated."

BIG BUSINESS EYES TEST

Since it was the first major attempt to break a strike in Detroit since 1941, Big Business nationally has watched the test with keen interest. Such mouthpieces of the capitalist class as the Wall Street Journal and Business Week have followed every move, reporting it in detail and outlining the strike-breaking strategy.

They appeared to hope that this might become the pattern for a new series of similar attempts elsewhere. If a strike could be broken in Detroit then it could be tried in other cities with good chances for successful repetition.

The Detroit workers, however, showed that they did not intend to give the employers such an easy victory. Traditionally militant sections of the union movement declared their support and started the ball rolling by coming down on the picket line. Thirteen local UAW officials headed the first Flying Squads.

DELIBERATE MOVE

The employers have now clearly decided to carry through their strikebreaking effort despite the big error in their original assumptions. This means they are thinking of a showdown fight with the Detroit labor movement.

That makes the struggle of crucial importance to the entire American labor movement. The Square D strike has been deliberately selected by the employers for a major test of strength.

Last week the Militant said: "The outcome of the battle at Square D will count heavily in deciding the final outcome of the struggle for survival of unionism in the United States." This estimate it appears was also reached by the workers' class enemy, Big Business.

They are now bringing up their main reinforcements in an all-out effort to win the struggle.

That makes it all the more important for the whole American labor movement to rally to the side of the Detroit unions who are now in the front line.

LABOR MUST MOBILIZE

Here in Detroit every union local, both CIO, AFL, and independent must mobilize for action. Don't let them break the Square D strike!

Outside of Detroit, all possible pressure must be exerted in behalf of the strikers. Don't let them break this strike in the heart of America's industrial area!

The bosses made a big mistake when they thought that Detroit union men and women would stand by while a strike was broken before their very eyes. Detroit unionists proved that they have long memories.

It may well turn out now that the bosses made a still bigger mistake when they decided to go right ahead with their original strikebreaking plan despite the changed situation. Their mistake is imagining that the American labor movement has forgotten how challenges like this were met in the Thirties and won against far greater odds.

No power available to the employers can stand up against the force at the disposal of the Labor movement. All that is required is recognition of what Ford Local 600's paper, Ford Facts, has called a "test-tube" situation. That and the appropriate action.

UAW Schedules Job Conference

A national economic conference has been scheduled by the CIO Auto Workers for Nov. 19 and 20 in Detroit, according to the Sept. 13 CIO News. About 2,000 delegates from more than 1,000 locals are expected to attend. The conference will deal with contract demands to be made on the employers and also the problem of unemployment.

Mayhew Files Suit to Secure Ballot Rights

CHICAGO, Sept. 13 — Howard Mayhew, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress from the 2nd District, filed suit today in the Cook County Circuit Court to compel the Election Commission to grant him a place on the ballot.

The Socialist Workers candidate was arbitrarily barred from the ballot Aug. 27 when the Board of Election ruled his petition invalid for "insufficiency." The Petition for Writ of Mandamus, was prepared by F. Raymond Marks, an American Civil Liberties Union attorney.

Commenting on the case, Mr. Marks said: "The American Civil Liberties Union takes the position that it is not interested in who the candidate is, or what the political principles involved are; that questions of political causes are properly left to the voter."

"The right of the voter to choose, however, is taken away or seriously curtailed when a place on the ballot is arbitrarily denied. The problem of the open as against the limited ballot runs to the very nature of the State. If the Election Board is permitted, by the complexities of the Election Code, to restrict candidacy by applying their own standards of 'desirability,' then the voters' choice is limited to those candidates who receive the official blessing of three administrators."

"The Board should restrict itself to the questions of whether the candidate has properly filed his petition, and leave questions of 'desirability' to the voters. It



HOWARD MAYHEW, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in the Illinois 2nd District who was ruled off the ballot by biased election officials, is receiving American Civil Liberties Union aid in appealing for his ballot rights.

THE MILITANT ARMY

Detroit reports an excellent response to the Militant with the article on the Dodge strike. Literature Agent Janet MacGregor writes:

"Men in the department where the firing took place took the article out and pasted it on the walls for everyone to read. Many commented on the fact that it was the first paper that was for the workers and not the company. Others said it was the first time they had found out what had really taken place in all the meetings that went on. All over the plant that day one could see men with Militants sticking out of their back pockets instead of the usual daily press."

"Johnny and Rudy have been doing call back work and each week get at least one sub. They

... Lumber Strike

(Continued from page 1)
the main body and core of the strike.

Considerable opposition was voiced by the rank and file to the proposal of the AFL leaders. The vote was close. But the lack of a well organized opposition, bound together by a militant strike policy, and able to oppose the leadership with a clear-cut program for strike victory, permitted the AFL leaders to push through their proposals.

It is true that the union membership was hard hit financially by the long battle. But the strike did not fail for lack of funds. The whole labor movement of this area was ready to rally to the side of the lumber workers. The Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners had announced their decision to place \$9,000,000 from their Strike Fund at the disposal of the lumber strikers. Other unions signified eagerness to help in the same way.

GOV'T STRIKEBREAKER

The plain truth is that the strike was lost because the union officials are bound hand and foot to the capitalist parties and their strike-breaking government. Early in the strike these leaders proclaimed they would fight for victory if it took all winter. But when they were faced with the need to take a militant stand against scabs, injunctions and government boards, they buckled.

The main lesson of the strike is the terrible fallacy of relying on leaders who are incapable of standing up to the bosses' government. The great promise of AFL-CIO unity in action was defeated because of such leaders. But it was the workers' pressure which achieved strike unity in the first place. The workers can and will forge unity in action again—and next time they will be on guard against another sell-out.

Subscribe!

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

Name

Street Zone

City State

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

NEW BOUND VOLUMES Now Available

The Militant, 1953 \$5.50
Fourth Int'l, 1952-53 \$6.50

Order from
FOURTH INTERNATIONAL
116 University Place
New York 3, N. Y.

Subscription \$3 per year:
\$1.50 for 6 months. Foreign:
\$4.50 per year; \$2.25 for 6
months. Canadian: \$3.50 per
year; \$1.75 for 6 months.
Bundle Orders: 5 or more
copies 6c each in U.S., 7c
each in foreign countries.

THE MILITANT

Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working People
THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION
116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y. Phone: AL 5-7469
Editor: JOSEPH HANSEN
Business Manager: DOROTHY JOHNSON

Signed articles by contribu-
tors do not necessarily re-
present The Militant's policies.
These are expressed in its
editorials.
"Entered as second class
matter March 7, 1944 at the
Post Office at New York,
N.Y., under the act of March
3, 1879."

Vol. XVIII—No. 39

Monday, September 27, 1954

Detroit Labor's Long Memory

Ordinarily, a strike of 1,200 workers, like the Square D walkout in Detroit, passes unnoticed, yet this strike has been observantly followed by Big Business. In its last two issues Business Week has given coverage to the strike indicating that it considers this struggle to be of national significance.

The heading of the Sept. 11 article is "Breaking a Strike"—a precise title. The opening sentence gives the exact significance of the American capitalist class sees in this Square D battle. It begins: "The first effort by a major employer in the Detroit area to break a strike since before the auto union seemed assured this week..."

The confident expectation of Business Week that the strike would be broken in the most union-conscious city in America and the auto union's citadel was based on the fact that the back-to-work strategy of calling the strike "not a fight between company and union but a fight against Communism" was expected to win "general union support" for Square D against the picketing strikers of the independent United Electrical Workers.

But Business Week chalked up a success for the "Square D Formula" a bit too soon. A week later, in the Sept. 18 issue, this voice of the corporations sadly noted a "hard fact" in the "tangled situation at Square D." Employers watching this attempt to break a strike with scabs and police violence, says Business Week, "could ponder one apparent lesson: In a militant labor area there is nothing unions fear or hate more than strike-breaking."

Atlee's Report on New China

A thick fog of lies surrounds the country of China, where one fourth of humanity makes its home. This fog was lifted slightly by the British Labor Party delegation, headed by Clement Atlee, which just visited the Republic of China.

Atlee is not a friend of New China and not interested in serving the Chinese revolution. Precisely because of this, his report of the Laborite delegation's visit, currently serialized in the New York Times, contains invaluable testimony of what is really happening.

A few excerpts from Atlee's Sept. 14 article:

"In Shanghai, as in Peking, one is impressed by some very positive achievements. Flies seem to have been successfully exterminated in the city, and so have been other long-standing evils. I inquired about the old problems of opium. I was told that when the present regime took over every opium smoker was registered and compelled to undergo treatment. The poppy is no longer cultivated and opium smoking seems to be at an end. Information on this score from Chinese sources was confirmed by Europeans of long experience in this country. These latter informed me that organized prostitution is now practically unknown.

A Change in the Gospel

Scientific socialists — the followers of Karl Marx who uncovered the basic laws of development of modern capitalism — have always pointed out that organized religions tend to be props of the established order and defenders of the system of exploitation of labor for private profit. The church leaders are less concerned about the kingdom of heaven than the empires of private ownership of the means of production on earth. Up to now, however, the Protestant churches, the main denominations in the United States, have never officially spelled out their economic bias.

But the ruling American capitalists now demand of every institution — even those which claim that their chief interests lie in things not of this world — that they line up openly and demonstratively on the side of "free enterprise" against "collectivism."

Thus, the policy-making General Board of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., an interchurch organization formed in 1950 by 30 Protestant and Eastern Orthodox sects with a claimed total membership of 35,000,000, has set its seal of approval on the profits system, with all its inherent evils of war, depression and fascism. By a vote of 77 to 4, the General Board members invoked divine right in signing an eternal franchise for the monopoly capitalists and an everlasting injunction against the common ownership of the means of production and distribution and planned economy of socialism.

The 4,000-word statement contains the usual phrases against "great contrasts be-

The CIO United Automobile Workers, headed by such fighting locals as Ford 600 and Dodge 3, reinforced the embattled picketline of the Square D members of the U.E.W. And, says Business Week, they made clear that "as much as the auto unionists might dislike Communists in labor, they dislike strikebreakers more."

Square D, and the employers everywhere who have been closely following this struggle, had "counted on a hands-off attitude on the part of other Detroit labor groups. If the U.E.W. local could be isolated by a Communist-domination charge, the company figured, a strikebreaking move could succeed." But, commented Business Week, "Square D reckoned without the long memory of Detroit-area unionists."

Yes, that was the question the employers everywhere were asking: Would the long memory of how the employers used red-baiting and the "communist" smear in the thirties as a strikebreaking device prevail in 1954 over the current witch-hunt atmosphere that most of the union leaders themselves have absorbed? Can the bosses now get away with strike-breaking by calling a union "Communist-infiltrated?"

The issue in Detroit is not yet settled, as of this writing. But Business Week glumly reported that "with anti-Communist unions backing the strikers, the company has lost most of its earlier optimism." It remains for Detroit labor to follow up its aid to the Square D strike so that any lingering optimism about breaking any strike fades permanently.

Shanghai at one time had a very different reputation for law and order. Formerly no woman would have thought of going out-of-doors by herself at night, but Europeans told me that now they had not the slightest hesitation in allowing their wives and daughters to go anywhere. Nowadays, also, they had no fear of burglary... Bribery and corruption in the public services are not tolerated; offenders are severely dealt with...

"The manager of a big enterprise told us that pilfering is now practically unheard of. All this, it seems to me, is remarkable and apparently was brought about largely by the voluntary action of the individual citizens who regard these old evils as being unworthy of the new China.

"In all my travels I never met anyone who felt that the Kuomintang could be reinstated."

This little glimpse into some of the striking surface changes in China should serve to whet our appetite for more information. Wouldn't it serve the cause of simple truth, if in the midst of the anti-red, anti-Chinese hysteria, the labor movement of the United States sent a broad, representative delegation to China to see for itself what is happening and report back to the American people?

tween rich and poor," "inequalities beyond the limits set by a broad view of justice and the well-being of society," etc. But, as between the private ownership of property for the exploitation of labor and "the socialization of the major means of production," the pillars of the church line up four-square for the private profits system. The statement even expresses the institutional self-interest involved: "The church is itself an institution which owns property, invests funds and employs labor."

Of course, one would search in vain in the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, for any sanction of capitalism. Indeed, we are all familiar with the text: "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God." The early Christians were "collectivists" in the sense of sharing their goods and were crucified as the radical opponents of the rich ruling classes of their day.

There is not a shred of original Christianity in the modern churches, whose leaders place their imprimatur on a system that has plunged us into two world wars, a host of colonial wars, a major world-wide economic collapse lasting more than a decade and the fascist dictatorships of Hitler, Mussolini, Franco, Chiang Kai-shek—and that now threatens more of the same. These "Christians" couldn't wait to declare their hostility to socialism; but on that most horrible end-product of capitalism, the H-bomb, they decided to refer the subject back to committee for "further study."

If the American People Knew

By Jack Bustelo

"If the American people knew what filth, unwholesomeness, and lack of sanitation exist in certain areas of the poultry industry, they would immediately revolt and demand prompt action by Congress, the State Legislatures, and Municipal officials to change the situation."

That is the opening sentence of a sensational pamphlet which has just been released by the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen. It is an exposure of conditions so shocking that it reads like something out of the pages of Upton Sinclair's famous book, "The Jungle," that aroused the entire country a half century ago to do something about the meat packing industry.

Here is a typical firsthand report taken from an affidavit sworn to by a member of the union:

"My job was to pull feathers, and those who were on this job with me and I were the first ones to handle the chickens after they had passed through the scalding process and roughing machine. When the chickens reached me, most of the feathers were off the bodies and I could see the skin of the birds very clearly.

"It is quite often that thousands of chickens would pass on the line with sores on their bodies. Thousands of them would have large swellings as large as a chicken egg on their bodies. These swellings were filled with a yellowish pus, and the odor was very strong. Others would have red spots all over their bodies that looked like small-pox."

Here is another extract from a sworn affidavit:

"I have seen thousands of chickens that I have worked on that had large sores on their bodies. Some of the sores had hard scabs on them and some of them would be open. I have, when I had time, cut these sores off. These sores would range in size from a dime to the size of a half dollar. I have also seen chickens with red spots all over their bodies. We did not know what caused these red spots but we would remark to each other that they had smallpox or measles."

Passing diseased chickens on to an unsuspecting public appears to be a deliberate policy in sections of the industry as is indicated by the following sworn statement:

"When I was killing chickens I have cut the throats of many

chickens that were already dead and stiff. These dead chickens would at times have part of their heads mashed off.

"The first time I saw these kind of chickens come along, I did not cut their throats, but (my) supervisors came and told me to cut their throats and let them go through with the good ones. I obeyed them from then on until I changed jobs.

"When on the killing job, I would also kill chickens that would be sick and have long, thick and stringy pus coming from their mouths and nostrils. "When clipping gizzards I would see large growths on the entrails that looked like a mass of jelly. These chicken entrails would smell awfully bad, and at times would make me sick at the stomach. The entrails would have small pimples on them that looked similar to measles. The gizzards would be full of worms and would get all over my hands, and they would also have some kind of hard growths on them. The livers would be almost green at times.

"These diseased livers and gizzards would be taken to the stuffing table and put in a sack and placed back in the chickens."

LOADED FOR MARKET

Still another affidavit gives this sickening picture:

"When packing there would be hundreds of chickens per day come into the packing room that would be bruised, have sores on them, and the chest cavity would be covered with pus. Sometimes the skins of chickens would be so covered with sores (sores that would have openings with a hard gummy ring around them, others that would have scabs over the sores, and others with red pimples that looked like measles and chicken pox) that I would have to take the entire skin off. Some of these sores would be cut off. After taking the skin off or cutting the sores off, I would pack them in boxes and see them loaded on trucks to be taken to market. Others that would have different parts that had turned green would have the green parts cut off and the rest of the carcass would be packed and loaded out for market."

Poultry-processing is a major industry in the United States, employing some 300,000 workers. Yet there is no compulsory Federal Law regulating the slaughtering, inspection, grading, labeling, packing, processing, canning, sale, and transportation of poultry or poultry products that move in interstate

commerce." Hence "those who operate this filthy trade make their big haul on the unsuspecting consumer in instances where the chickens are cut up and sold in packages of breasts, wings, drumsticks, or some other particular part of the bird and featured as ready for frying or stewing."

A typical example of what happens in the absence of Federal inspection is indicated by the following sworn statement, which begins by indicating the familiar sight that greets poultry workers:

NEVER SAW AN INSPECTOR

"My job was cleaning up and during the last four months my job was cutting off feet. This job required that I handle and cut the feet off every third chicken. During my tenure of employment I have never seen the Federal, County or State Inspector in the... Plant. I have seen thousands of chickens with large sores, broken wings, discolored spots, and some were green and slimy. These chickens were then sent into the packing room for shipment. I have never seen a chicken that was discarded as unfit for human consumption. All chickens regardless of their condition were sent to the packing room."

The testimony of another worker offers typical confirmation—the details now seem almost monotonous, but they serve to show how widespread these gruesome conditions are: "My job was to take the galls off the livers. I also had to handle the hearts. I have handled thousands of livers with big ugly sores, hearts that were enlarged to twice their normal size and hearts that were covered with pus. Sometimes these sores would break open and the odor was so bad that I could hardly stand it. I would put the livers and hearts into a trough, diseased ones and all. They were then washed by a machine and sent on to the Packing Room where they were prepared for shipment. I was instructed to put every one, including the diseased part, into the trough which I did. I have never seen an inspector in the plant."

UNION DEMANDS CLEAN UP

The union is pressing for effective legislation to regulate the poultry industry and provide for Federal inspection as in meat packing. The Executive Board says that the union intends to carry the campaign through to a successful conclusion "even if it costs the Inter-

national Union a million dollars."

This exposure of what is going on in the poultry industry is another reminder that the capitalist profit system does not serve the public interest. The poultry processors think like all capitalists—the public be damned. Their main interest is to do what their system calls for—make a profit.

As the union points out, it's everybody's fight to bring law and order into the jungle of this food industry. It should also be everybody's fight to go further. Let the capitalist jungle that puts the profits of a few above the welfare of all give way to socialism which puts human needs first.

Still the Exception



When 143,000 children returned to school in Baltimore, Md., some Negro children were permitted to attend with white pupils for the first time in the city's history, as shown above in the kindergarten of P. S. 99. However, most Negro children, here as elsewhere, remain in segregated schools based upon restricted residential areas and zoning rules.

Eastern Cities Hear Myra Weiss on Tour

ALLENTOWN, Pa., Sept. 11—Myra Tanner Weiss spoke to-night at one of the best meetings held here for some time. Her topic "The Struggle for Socialism and the 1954 Elections" provided rich material for analysis of today's crisis on the American political scene and the promise of a new working-class movement emerging from it.

Comrade Weiss analyzed the tremendous development of reaction in both houses of the 83rd Congress as manifested especially in passage of the "Communist Control" bill. Quoting extensively from the Congressional Record, she proved that almost every Congressman capitulated to the witch-hunt drive even while protesting that he did not like the bill, or considered it unconstitutional.

To this display of reaction, she contrasted the action of the Detroit workers in backing up the Square D strikers. This, she said, could mark a turning point in the witch-hunt.

The meeting concluded with a lively discussion and an excellent collection to help her continue the tour.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 13—A well-attended meeting at which Myra Tanner Weiss spoke on "The Struggle for Socialism and the 1954 Elections," lively discussions on local problems and a stirring interview on the Steve Alison radio show featured the Philadelphia leg of her national tour.

Taking up the major implications of the passage of the "Communist Control" bill by the 83rd Congress, Myra Tanner Weiss pointed out that the "new measure at one stroke wipes out the gains made by the working class in the struggles of the Thirties."

The NLRB, which gave the unions the legal right to bargain collectively is now practically a "dead letter," she said. "Instead we have a new category, 'Communist-infiltrated union,' which can be used against any organization that stands up for the rights of its members."

Robert Chester, SWP candidate for Congress from the Fourth District, spoke on the meaning of the Wiley Clark case and its lessons to Negroes and workers generally. "Every Wiley Clark case, as does every important test affecting the rights of the workers, immediately exposes the role of the capitalist parties and points the road for independent class action in politics," he said. "Such cases provide new openings to develop the already growing interest in organizing an independent Labor Party."

In the hour-long interview on the Steve Alison show, Myra Tanner Weiss castigated the infamous role of the liberals in Congress who voted for the "Communist Control" bill while covering their left flank with high-sounding phrases. She also

showed how a socialist America could bring a real birth of freedom to the country.

While the middle-class studio audience expressed antagonism to her views, it could not help but indicate its admiration for her forthright defense of working class rights in this period of McCarthyite witch-hunting. Phone calls to the studio kept coming in long after the interview had ended.

NEW YORK, Sept. 17—Myra Tanner Weiss helped the New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party in its state-wide election campaign with an inspiring talk tonight on the danger of McCarthyism.

An attentive audience, including a number of new friends of the SWP, heard her attack the shameful role of the liberals in Congress who tried to "out-McCarthy" McCarthy. She stressed the need for the trade-unions to take the road of independent political action to stop McCarthyism and called for formation of a Labor Party in the United States.

Underlining the importance of the SWP election campaign in the fight against McCarthyism, she hailed New York candidates David L. Weiss, Dorothy Haines, Catherine Gratta and Harold Robins whose names appeared on a large banner over the slogan "Our Fighting Socialist Candidates."

During the question and discussion period, workers in the audience raised a number of interesting points. One wanted to know how the congressmen could pass legislation outlawing a political party in clear violation of their oath of office to uphold the constitution. Another wanted to know to what extent the anti-labor Butler bill, which was included in the "outlaw" measure, has been used against the unions up to now.

Following the meeting, the bulk of the audience remained to talk with Myra Tanner Weiss and the SWP candidates.

Draft Chile Strikers

More than 5,000 striking workers of the United States owned Braden Copper Company's El Teniente mine were conscripted into the Chilean army according to a Sept. 14 U.P. dispatch. Gen. E. Yanez, military commander of the province, threatened to court-martial workers as deserters if they didn't go back to work.

Myra T. Weiss Tour Schedule

Detroit	Sept. 29—Oct. 3
St. Louis	Oct. 5
Chicago	Oct. 7—9
Milwaukee	Oct. 10—11
Twin Cities	Oct. 13—19

Newark Ministers Map Drive on Cop Brutality

By Daniel Roberts

NEWARK, Sept. 20 — Two powerful organizations in the Negro community spoke out against police brutality today. Both the Baptist and A.M.E. (Methodist) Ministerial Conferences of Greater Newark voted to endorse the four-point program of the Citizens Against Police Brutality and extend it every cooperation in its campaign.

The ministers acted after the facts of the police beating of Edward Taylor, Director of Organization, N. J. Negro Labor Council, and other instances of brutality against Negroes were presented to both meetings.

The Citizens' program, endorsed by the ministers makes four demands on Mayor Leo P. Carlin: (1) that he immediately suspend patrolmen DiOrto and Ferranti, who beat Taylor; (2) that he appoint a Negro judge in the Fourth Precinct; (3) that he integrate the police and hire more Negro policemen; (4) that he conduct an independent investigation of the Police Department.

The Citizens Against Police Brutality at a meeting on Sept. 18 mapped out an aggressive campaign to halt the reign of terror that the cops are conducting against the Negro population of Newark.

TO PROPOSE ORDINANCE

Spokesmen for the Citizens will propose an ordinance to the Newark City Council. This ordinance would provide for the immediate suspension of all policemen involved in beatings.

"We call on all people—Negro and white—to come down to the Council meeting at City Hall 8 P.M. on Tuesday, Oct. 5," said Charles Matthews, campaign director of the Citizens in a public statement today. "We urge them to pack the Council room to the rafters. This will show that the people of Newark are aroused and want to stop police brutality now."

Mobilizations to turn out an attendance of many hundreds at

the Council meeting are planned for the next eight days.

URGE PACKED COURT ROOM

Matthews also urged that people pack the court room on Oct. 1 at 2 P.M., when Edward Taylor's case will be heard. Taylor faces a frame-up indictment of carrying a concealed weapon and of assaulting an officer. The cases of Patrolmen DiOrto and Ferranti, whom Taylor charged with atrocious assault,

will be heard at the same time.

Matthews further announced that a drive to obtain 10,000 signatures on a petition against police brutality was nearing completion.

The Citizens Against Police Brutality are now planning to take the facts of the Taylor case and other beatings to the labor movement. They will seek to enlist the unions in the drive to put an end to cop brutality in Newark.

Our Readers Take the Floor

Two Congressmen From Wisconsin

Editor:

The hearings on charges against McCarthy bring memories and a train of thought concerning the contrast between the treatment in Washington of two congressmen from Wisconsin.

The liberals have been telling us there is not much that can be done about McCarthy because he was elected by the voters of Wisconsin. Well, around the beginning of the first world war, Victor Berger was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives by the voters of Wisconsin on the Socialist ticket.

The Socialist Party opposed U.S. entry into the war, branding it as a war for capitalist power and profit. (Woodrow Wilson admitted as much—after the war.) The House went into a huddle and Victor Berger, the people's choice, was tossed out to go back to Wisconsin. His character was never questioned.

What a difference in the case of McCarthy, the darling of millionaires—a shake of the head and a wink of the eye.

This contrast in the treatment of two congressmen from Wisconsin will not puzzle anyone

who has read the Militant. Our ruling class will do their damndest to remain our ruling class. A militant Labor Party could go a long way to changing their minds.

If memory serves correctly, Berger won a subsequent election. But he never did sit in the House.

L.S.
Perkasie, Pa.

Big Wind Dies Down

Editor:

What a phony FDR, Jr., turned out to be. "I will not take second place on the ticket under any circumstances," he said Monday, Sept. 20. "I am not a candidate for Lieutenant Governor or anything else but Governor."

He really meant it. "Neither Hurricane Florence nor party bosses can stop the Roosevelt," he said.

Two days later Hurricane, Jr., was only a whisper. He took third place — attorney general — and is now delivering hot air for millionaire Harriman for governor.

For Socialism
New York

The Negro Struggle

By Fred Hart

The Bomb Replaces the Rope

The rope used to be the symbol of anti-Negro terrorism in this country, but it has been replaced: The bomb is now the weapon most favored by the racist forces.

The story of Trumbull Park Homes, where Negroes for a whole year have been fighting white supremacist attacks to drive them out of their homes, has already been told in a pamphlet ("Racial Terror at Trumbull Park" by Howard Mayhew, Pioneer Publishers, 10c).

But the same story is being written every week in the Negro press about other parts of the country. For example:

In Lake Como, near Fort Worth, Texas, a bomb blew up the auto of a Negro school teacher, K. W. Carter, Jr., parked beside the home his parents had recently bought in a white neighborhood. Carter awakened on Sept. 11, to find glass showering over his head from windows in a smoke-filled room. His car was destroyed and dishes were smashed in surrounding homes, though no one was hurt.

Previously a car belonging to another Negro, Lawrence Peters, was bombed, and a house owned by L. V. Johnson, Negro real estate dealer, was blasted.

Carter said he had been threatened several times by white neighbors in the area when he went to visit his parents. "You'd better stay out of this neighborhood," he was told. The dynamite bomb spoke the same words.

And it was loudly echoed in Coronado, a suburb of Norfolk, Va., where Jim Crow violence is directed against 14 Negro families who recently moved in and another two dozen who have bought homes but hesitate to move into them.

The home of Mrs. V. D. Walton, being minded by Mr. and Mrs. Howard Piggee, was bombed last month. The explosion tore off part of a front of the house and

plaster inside. This was not deemed sufficient. So the house was bombed a second time. This time a porch and much of the interior were demolished.

"Almost nightly and every Sunday," the Kansas City Call reports, "whites get into their cars and form a caravan trying to block Negroes in cars who come out" to see homes for sale or rent. "The whites seemingly are trying to bluff Negroes out, buy them out, burn them out or in the last resort, bomb them out. All things have been tried and Negro families are remaining."

Among the things tried in Coronado, besides bombs, is arson. One house was set afire. Another was entered and flooded, its plumbing torn out. Railroad flares were thrown into the yard of another house. A white man was finally arrested in connection with the latter offense. He was fined \$25 and given a 30-day suspended jail sentence. Many traffic violations are punished more severely than that.

Getting no protection of their lives and property from the local cops, Coronado Negroes appealed to Gov. T. B. Stanley for action to restore "law and order." He didn't seem worried, however. He said he was keeping in touch with the situation but "not contemplating any additional action." Besides, he said, there had been "no mob violence" in Coronado.

This is a complete distortion. Mob violence continues unabated throughout the South, and in many places has increased. The only difference is that the white supremacists now prefer to work in the dark, and to use the bomb and the club instead of the rope and the torch. Whoever denies this fact is a liar in the service of Jim Crow terror. The courageous Negroes defying this terror deserve the support—the active concrete support—of the entire labor movement.

Solidarity at Square D

By Robert Himmel Jr.

SWP Candidate for Congress, 1st Mich. District

DETROIT, Sept. 20—From the beginning of its strikebreaking attempt the Square D company has tried to use race prejudice as one of its main weapons against the strikers.

Before the present strike only about 150 of the company's 1,200 employees were Negroes. The company has bitterly fought all moves by the union to do away with discrimination in the employment office and inside the plant. The first Negro worker was not hired by Square D until 1943.

But now the company announces that it is going to become a model of democracy. It has deluged the offices of the Negro newspapers with press releases stating that it is hiring Negro workers without prejudice. All they have to do is walk across a picket line and they have a job. The company bragged that two-thirds of the scabs hired on the first day were Negroes.

The Negro community was not taken in by this gag. It was obvious to everyone that the company was trying to create an incident between Negro scabs and white pickets in a predominantly Negro neighborhood. They wanted something that would resemble a race riot and would tend to discredit the strike among Negro workers.

In a statement issued last Tuesday, the Detroit branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People called on Negro workers "not to permit themselves to be used as strikebreakers" at Square D. Arthur Johnson, executive secretary of the Detroit branch, noted that this policy was in line with the resolution passed at this year's na-

tional conference of the NAACP, which said: "The NAACP, as a matter of fundamental policy, calls upon all branches and state conferences to engage in vigorous action to prevent the use of Negroes and other racial minorities for strikebreaking purposes during labor disputes."

This is "fundamental policy" with the Square D strikers too. On the picket line itself the ranks of the strikers are solid. Not a single one of the original Negro employees has returned to work. On the contrary, they have been among the most militant fighters on the line. And among the white workers, many of whom come from the South, there is a new understanding that race prejudice is nothing but a tactic of the bosses to divide the working people.

The company's attempt to inject race hostility into this strike ran up against a solid wall. These workers, hit with every dirty trick the capitalists can think of, know the score and there is nothing that can divide them at this stage of the game.

I wish that every union man and woman in this country could see the Negro and white workers marching together on the Square D picket line, singing the traditional songs of labor's struggles. It would inspire them, as it has inspired many people here, with the unbeatable power of a united labor movement.

This stirring demonstration of solidarity, coupled with the aid that the strikers are getting from other unions, is a dress rehearsal on a small scale of what the capitalists will face in their future attacks on the working people.

Notes from the News

ONE THOUSAND MORE WORKERS will be laid off by Republic Aircraft Co. at its Long Island Thunderjet and Thunderstreak plant by the end of this month, bringing to 7,000 the total idled since mid-August. The company's vice president said the dismissals will affect workers whose jobs have become unnecessary due to two previous layoffs of 3,000 each, according to the Sept. 19 N.Y. Post.

"BEWARE THE CANNIBALS," warns Textile Labor (Sept. 4) which claims that 150 mills, employing more than 50,000 workers, have been devoured since July 1953. "The dangers" of these corporate mergers, the front-page story says, "are intensified because the principal 'cannibal' companies include those whose past policies have been aimed at high prices, low wages and aggressive anti-unionism."

A PLEA FOR SURPLUS FOOD held in storage by the Federal Government to be distributed to 40,000 "needy unemployed" in the Cleveland area has been made by the Cleveland Industrial Union Council, CIO central body, reports Antony Mazzolini in the Sept. 9 Cleveland Plain Dealer. Signed petitions pressing for improvement in unemployment compensation have been filed at Columbus but persons already receiving compensation refused to sign. CIUC Executive Secretary E. S. Dietrich explained that "they are afraid because they fear they might run into trouble with their unemployment compensation. The fault is not with them; it is with the state law that creates a psychology of fear among applicants."

TO AVOID A BURNING CROSS, Bernard Beckerman, Hofstra College professor who rented a room to Melvin Smith, 21-year-old Negro student and Korean war veteran, cancelled the deal, reports the Sept. 18 N.Y. Times. The professor explained he heard that his neighbors might burn a cross in his front yard and he "felt there might be difficulties." He added that the "neighbors hinted all sorts of unpleasant things might happen if we went ahead."

THE COUNTRY'S OLD FOLKS are being put in a bad light by Hollywood film makers, states the N.Y. State Legislative Committee on Problems of the Aging. "The only roles Hollywood associates with later life are those of the irascible spinster, the garrulous grandpa, the seedy, aged tramp, and the meddling aunt." The committee pointed out that "such movies prejudice young people against their elders."

A KINDERGARTEN TEACHER was hauled over the coals by her school principal because she explained to her pupils that the Pilgrims came to America "to escape a wicked king." To speak of kings as "wicked" is to follow the Communist line, the principal ruled. The CIO Paperworkers News which reports this story from Los Angeles reminds us that "this is no isolated instance. Remember the school board member in Indiana who wanted to purge Robin Hood from the text books on the grounds the merry men of Sherwood Forest were no more than a cell of plundering Bolsheviks?"

VOLUME XVIII

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1954

NUMBER 39

THE MILITANT

Demand Surplus Food For Jobless in Buffalo

Women Voters League Hears Vince Copeland

BUFFALO, Sept. 9—At a meeting of the local League of Women Voters held here tonight in the YWCA, Vincent Copeland, Socialist Workers candidate for Represent-

tative from the 41st District, warned of the danger of fascism in America represented by the McCarthyite movement.

The League of Women Voters invited all local congressional candidates to appear. Besides Copeland, the invitation was ac-

cepted by Radwan, a Republican; Lucca and Wachowiak, Democrats; and Longo a Liberal. About 100 people, mostly middle-class and professional women, turned out to hear the candidates.

Each speaker was given five minutes to present his platform, after which the audience was permitted to question the speakers.

The audience displayed a lively interest and tried to put the candidates on the spot on such key issues as unemployment, foreign policy, the United Nations, the danger of war, etc.

Of the candidates, Copeland was the only one to offer a constructive program for the workers. The Socialist Workers Party, he explained, offers the only realistic proposals for assuring full employment. He also showed that the workers have nothing to gain from another war; and he stressed the danger to America arising from the growth of McCarthyism.

The other candidates all avoided such crucial issues. The Liberal candidate spent most of his time begging the audience not to vote Republican. He never once indicated that he expected any one to vote for him.

When Republican Radwan finished, a worker asked why he had said nothing about unemployment. Radwan answered cynically that unemployment was not an issue because there was no unemployment!

Outraged at this lie, the worker said that unemployment was so severe in the Buffalo area that it was time surplus food be distributed from government warehouses to help them out.

Not one of the capitalist candidates had a word to say about this suggestion. Vincent Copeland, however, said it was a timely proposal. He pledged a determined fight to make it a reality. He also stressed the importance of fighting for the 30-hour week at 40 hours pay to help reduce unemployment.

After the meeting, several workers in the audience congratulated Copeland as the only candidate with a sound program and wished him success in his campaign for office.

Hear the Voice Of the SWP

Tune in on WKBW every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 10:30 P. M. beginning Sept. 28. Hear the truth about the issues in this election. That's 1520 on your radio dial.

"WHAT COMPANY IS GOING TO HIRE ME NOW?" WORKER ASKS

BUFFALO—"I've been with du Pont since 1935. I'm 54 years old. What company is going to hire me now? I don't know what I'll do."

This was a du Pont worker speaking—one of the 1,000 thrown out on the street by the billionaire du Pont family when it decided to move its rayon plant from Tonawanda, N.Y., to Richmond, Va.

The du Pont corporation, which draws its fabulous income from practically every product that reaches the American home from toothbrushes to automobiles, had already moved its cellulose sponge production to Tennessee. This is a planned trek southward. It wipes out in one blow the gains of the du Pont workers and it raises a serious threat to every working man and woman. Why did they do it?

Is it what the Buffalo Evening News stated in an editorial on July 8—that the dimming of Buffalo's "good neighbor halo" may be driving business interests out of this area? No, the News, which is a spokesman for industry, has distorted and covered up the truth.

The real reason for the du Pont shifts to Virginia and Ten-

BUFFALO, Sept. 18—Socialist Workers Party candidates Dorothy Haines, who is running for Lieutenant Governor of New York, and Louise Ellis, who seeks the state Senate seat for the 55th Senatorial District, are scheduled to head a non-partisan delegation of housewives to go to Washington, Sept. 25, to demand surplus food for the needy in the Buffalo area.

The need for surplus food for the unemployed is acute here. The Socialist Workers Party was the first to call attention to the problem and to insist that something be done about it.

The government has immense surpluses of food that it has bought to keep food prices high throughout the country. The sur-

pluses are so large that the government doesn't have enough warehouses to store it, and a whole fleet of ships has been put to use just to store wheat in the cargo holds.

And the food continues to pour in. Some of it rots. Part of it is shipped abroad, not for the sake of sweet charity, but to be used as a carrot to go along with the club that reactionary regimes use against hungry workers in foreign lands.

Meanwhile in America the need for food in depressed areas becomes more desperate. In Buffalo at the last count 16,000 families were on relief. Almost 34,000 were officially listed as unemployed, with some 33% of them receiving no unemployment benefits.

As industry feels the effect of slow strangulation, more workers get dismissal notices every day. A recent headline in the local press proclaiming the end of the "recession" (Eisenhower said so) was greeted in the factories and in the lines of men and women queued up for unemployment checks with bitter derision.

You can't fool the experts, and Buffalo workers have become unwilling experts on the question of unemployment in this area.

In face of these facts, it is easy to see why the Buffalo area needs surplus food, not as a substitute for relief, which is certainly inadequate at best, but as a supplement to it.

But like many good ideas, simple though it is, most organizations never thought of it. Others such as the Democrats and Republicans, would no doubt oppose it if someone suggested it to them. It was the Socialist Workers Party that came up with the suggestion.

During the campaign to get signatures on New York state nominating petitions to put the

SWP candidates on the ballot, party workers found that popular resentment over the food problem was mounting. The idea of demanding surplus food quickly took hold, particularly in the poorer working-class districts and most of all in that ghetto where thousands upon thousands of Buffalo Negroes are forced to live under the most wretched of slum conditions, the over-crowded Fifth Ward.

Realizing that it had correctly assessed the situation, the SWP began to circulate appeals for a delegation of housewives to go to Washington to voice the demand for allocation of surplus food to the needy in Buffalo.

A delegation, strictly non-partisan in composition, was formed under the leadership of SWP candidates Dorothy Haines and Louise Ellis.

As the campaign began to attract wide support, the Buffalo CIO Council felt compelled to go on record also requesting surplus food. This was a welcome move.

But, typical of its do-nothing policy, it merely passed the buck to the Council of Social Welfare Agencies in the area for appropriate action. It has not been announced when this organization will meet, nor whether it will even honor the request of the CIO Council.

But the needy families on the Niagara Frontier cannot wait with folded hands for the council to act. The SWP is doing everything possible to gain the widest possible support for the Housewives Delegation that is scheduled to go to Washington to demand surplus food.

OUR CANDIDATES

The two women candidates of the Socialist Workers Party, who have led the campaign to get up a delegation of Buffalo housewives to go to Washington and demand government surplus food for the unemployed of the Niagara Frontier, are both workers.

Dorothy Haines, SWP candidate for Lieutenant Governor, began work at the age of 18 as a welder in the Hingham Shipyard at Boston during the war. With the post-war layoffs, which hit Negro workers especially hard because of low seniority, she was laid off.

For eight months she looked for a job while her small savings dwindled down to nothing. Then she went to work as a punch-press operator. This lasted until the "recession" of 1949 when she was again out of work. Recently she found employment in a laundry. A dynamic and persuasive speaker, a clear and fearless thinker, she considers her real career to be that of a socialist.

Thus the University of Washington lost a student and the Socialist Workers Party gained a member.

She worked first in an electrical plant, later became a waitress. But like Dorothy Haines she considers her real career to be that of a socialist.

Workers Head SWP Slate For New York State Offices

When you go to the polls Nov. 2 be sure to vote for the state-wide candidates of the Socialist Workers Party.

For Governor pull the lever indicating your choice is David L. Weiss.

He is a veteran socialist leader, lecturer and educator and has served as a trade-union organizer.

An electrical worker, he headed the SWP ticket in the 1953 New York mayoralty contest.

For Lieutenant Governor vote

for Dorothy Haines whose biography is given above.

For State Comptroller vote for Harold Robins. A long-time unionist, his record for militancy goes back to the early Thirties.

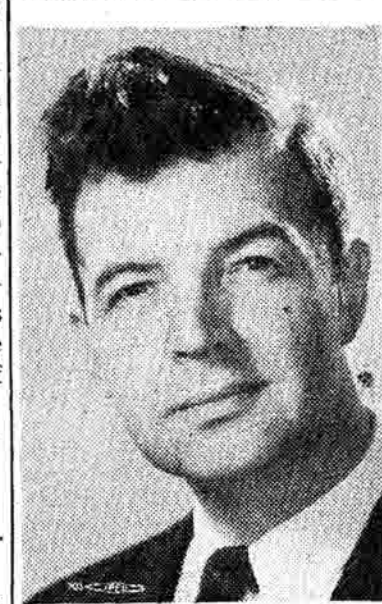
In 1940 he was the SWP candidate for President of the Borough of Manhattan.



DAVID L. WEISS



CATHERINE GRATTA



VINCENT COPELAND

For Buffalo's 41st District

As candidate for U.S. Representative from the 41st District, the Socialist Workers Party has chosen Vincent Copeland, one of the founders of the party's Buffalo local.

"Vince," as he is called by thousands of steelworkers in this area, has a long record of activity in the Buffalo labor movement. He is well known in Bell Aircraft and particularly the great Lackawanna Plant of the Bethlehem Steel Co. Most of his employment was in the blast furnace department where work is traditionally hard, heavy, dirty and underpaid.

It was here that Vince became known far and wide for his unceasing fight for workers both white and colored. Among his outstanding achievements was organization of the battle to gain for Negroes the right to work in the repair gang, a job reserved before then for whites only.

In Local 2601 of the United Steelworkers, Vince served as recording secretary and grievance committeeman, representing both blast furnace and coke oven workers as steward. His outstanding service as grievance committeeman eventually cost him his job. The company fired him for giving leadership to the workers in one of the most bitter and dramatic struggles against Jim Crow on the Niagara Frontier.

The workers did their best to defend Vince. Even though they had just returned from a "wildcat" strike, 17,000 went out. They were finally defeated only by the combined assault of the company, the government, the press and the union bureaucracy.

Vincent Copeland comes from a long line of rebels, one of whom came in the Mayflower to land at Plymouth in search for freedom. His forefathers fought against tyranny under George Washington and Ulysses S. Grant. His father was an honest old-time liberal, well remembered in Buffalo for his struggle against the Volstead Act.

Long a target of the red-baiting Buffalo press for his activities as a rank and file union leader, Vincent Copeland is probably the best known radical in Buffalo. And by the time the present campaign is over, he will be even more widely recognized as the leading spokesman of the left wing in the labor movement on the Niagara Frontier.