

"Labor Friends" In Congress Do Job for Wall St.

By Myra Tanner

JULY 27 — The 84th Congress is about to finish its first session. Perhaps before the weekend is over Congressmen will be running home or taking some nice long "official" junkets to various parts of the world at government expense.

Last November the labor movement went to a lot of trouble to fill the Senate and the House with Democrats. Isn't it time to tally up the score and see just what the unions got for their trouble?

There are many ways to evaluate the first half of the Congressional term. Let us start by comparing the record with the promises made during the election campaign.

THE BOX SCORE

The labor movement asked for a minimum wage of \$1.25 an hour. A modest enough request, considering the high cost of living. But at best there will be a bill raising the minimum to only \$1.00. Perhaps Congress thought it would compensate for dropping 25¢ by boosting its own wages 50%. But for those who need the money most, the minimum will still be far below subsistence level.

Civil rights were promised during the election campaign. Many a speech predicted the end of segregation. But Rep. Powell got a presidential scolding for daring to propose a desegregated national guard. Did anyone hear a cry of protest from Congress at this outrageous blow to civil rights?

Equal pay for equal work? Repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act—or even its amendment? Federal legislation to stop the avalanche of "right to slave" bills? Forgotten! The election campaign was over eight months ago. The victors were busy collecting their pay.

But perhaps it isn't fair to compare the record with promises made in anxious moments by eager job-hunters. Let's compare the 84th Congress with the 83rd. Things might look a little brighter then.

But do they? War tensions have diminished somewhat. But that's not because of anything Congress did. The war strategy of Big Business now requires temporary deals with the Kremlin. But the preparations for war go on; and this Congress voted 65% of the federal budget for it.

The witch hunt has subsided. McCarthy, at present, no longer frightens the Senate out of its wits. But the Democrat, Eastland, is trying his best to carry on the witch-hunt tradition of prying, spying, stalling and persecution. He should at least get an E for effort.

There have been some juicy exposes of crooked doings in the capital. But that takes place every year. Sum it all up: For labor — no hits, no runs, just errors.

Big Four



Pres. Eisenhower, British Prime Minister Anthony Eden, French Premier Edgar Faure, and Soviet Premier N. A. Bulganin. The big four used the Geneva Conference as a sounding board for high-powered publicity about their wish for peace, but what they accomplished is another story. See article this page.

Ten Years After Hiroshima

An Editorial

The jellied gasoline fire-bombings of Tokyo late in May 1945 had been officially reported by U.S. military authorities as extraordinarily successful. "The attacks this week (following five others) burned with a similar speed and destructive results and it is possible that 1,000,000 or maybe even twice that number of the Emperor's subjects perished."

The capitalist press acclaimed the progress in murdering defenseless civilians, yet looked for something even better. "You Can Cook 'Em Quicker With Gas," said the N. Y. Daily News.

Something much better than gas was even then on its way.

On August 6, just ten years ago, the entire city of Hiroshima, population 344,000, was obliterated by a single bomb.

Three days later on August 9 a second city of helpless civilians was selected as the target for another atomic bomb. The name of the city was Nagasaki.

That was the world's introduction to the practical uses of atomic energy.

The two bombs were made in America. They were dropped without warning on teeming cities of civilians behind the lines — the aged and the sick, men, women and children, workers outside of uniform — on orders of the President of the United States.

The capitalist press shouted its approval. "Conditions for destruction at Nagasaki were even more favorable than at Hiroshima," said the N. Y. Post. "The congestion among the city's population of 253,000 had caused the eave-to-eave building pattern to be described as a 'sea of roofs'."

A single bomb weighing 1,200 pounds was reported to have the destructive power of 20,000 tons of TNT.

"The present bomb was understood," said the United Press, "to have the power to blind persons within a five-mile radius and to kill within four miles. The searing blast was said to fuse the earth, resulting in a silica-like formation."

Truman told the Japanese people that they now faced "a rain of ruin from the air the like of which has never been seen on this earth."

"This isn't a new bomb," said physicist John W. Campbell in the liberal PM. "It's something that never was before. It's the power to reach the stars and the power to kill the human race."

That was 10 years ago.

Today the Hiroshima-type bomb has been converted into a mere trigger for bombs so powerful, so destructive and so dangerous that even experimentation with them has brought repeated warnings from the world's most eminent scientists on the consequences to mankind.

Their use in a Third World War has become the nightmare haunting our planet. And the capitalists of America can no longer piously say as did PM the day after Hiroshima: "Thank God, It's OUR Atomic Bomb!"

The consequences of a Third World War are so grim that it seems impossible any human being, even a capitalist, could deliberately plan for it or so much as dream of using the H-bomb.

Yet we must never forget that it is now known that the Japanese government had already offered to surrender before the first atomic bomb was dropped. The conclusion seems inescapable that Hiroshima and Nagasaki were wiped out as menacing gestures toward the Soviet Union — as first great steps toward the cold war that was intended to be the prelude to World War III.

It is true that social and political forces beyond their control have now forced the men of Wall Street to draw back and even begin to sing hymns of peace and good will.

But it would be fatal to believe what they say today or to think they would not use the atomic bomb again.

Let's decide to remember that as we recall the two cities that were deliberately obliterated 10 years ago.

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Kremlin Gives Eisenhower Diplomatic Victory at Geneva

Examiner's Bias Halts "Subversive" Hearing

The first hearing ever granted an organization on the Attorney General's "subversive" list bogged down after two days with the blacklisted organization, the Independent Socialist League, protesting to Attorney General Brownell against the patent bias of the trial examiner.

The protest was in the form of a lengthy telegram from Joseph L. Rauh Jr., attorney for the ISL, to Brownell, citing at great length hearing examiner Edward M. Morrissey's undisguised favoritism toward the Department of Justice attorneys. Rauh, National Chairman of Americans for Democratic Action and a leading Washington lawyer, demanded an

examiner who would conduct an impartial hearing.

REFUSE TO DEFINE TERMS

The hearing, which began July 25 with the government presenting its "case," has been a mockery so far. The government lawyers have consistently refused to define the terms used referring to the ISL's alleged guilt. Rauh's demands for definitions have been steadily overruled.

Further, the government refuses to present its "theory of the case," i.e., what it hopes to prove. This elementary procedure of American law customarily forms the prosecution's opening statement at every trial.

Without explaining what it would try to prove the ISL guilty of, the prosecution began introducing into evidence isolated sentences and passages, ripped from the context of "The Fight for Socialism," by Max Shachtman, ISL Chairman. Demanding the whole book be introduced, Rauh denounced the government moves as "cheesy tricks" and "vicious distortions."

A big dispute raged over Communist with a big C and communist with a little c. The loyalty order on which the "subversive" list is based refers to "Communist" with a big C. That has meant, in past government usage, connection with the Communist (Stalinist) parties or the Communist International.

Since the ISL is rabidly anti-Stalinist, no case can be made out against it as "Communist." Therefore the government has shifted its ground to calling the ISL communist with a little c, despite the loyalty order and subversive list. Rauh asked the reason for the shift, the government's definition of communism with a little c, etc.

At each point in the long dispute Morrissey ruled in the government's favor. Some time later when Isaac Groner, Rauh's associate, happened to refer to "little c communism and big C communism," Morrissey inquired what that was. This was a tip-off that the examiner had not even bothered or been able to follow the long previous arguments, but had nevertheless ruled automatically for the government.

Following Morrissey's refusal to disqualify himself, Rauh sent the protest telegram to Brownell. When the hearing reconvened July 27, no reply from Brownell having been received, it was adjourned to August 1.

The Pay-Off



Parley with Mao Regime To Follow

By Joseph Hansen

The chorus of praise for the Geneva Conference, which ended July 23, is wide and loud. Eisenhower spoke of the assurances that were made of intent "to pursue a new spirit of conciliation and cooperation" and his hope that "these assurances will be faithfully carried out." Khrushchev, first secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, echoed Eisenhower by declaring July 25 that "both sides won the conviction that neither side wants war."

Of the 1,500 correspondents sent to Geneva to cover the parley for the capitalist press, even those inclined to play down its importance still put the label "encouraging progress" on the results of the gathering.

Moreover, the conference was immediately followed by a simultaneous, prearranged announcement in Washington and Peking of a meeting to begin Aug. 1 between representatives of the two governments. This meeting at the ambassadorial level will take up such issues as the release of American prisoners.

It will also seek "to facilitate further discussions and settlement of certain other practical matters now at issue between both sides," according to the State Department.

Washington's obvious aim in this move is to parallel the shift in its diplomatic relations with Moscow by a complementary shift in relations with Peking. It follows the earlier exploratory trip to Peking by United Nations head Hammarskjöld and a series of consular meetings in Switzerland between U. S. and Chinese officials.

Both the capitalist and Stalinist press praised Eisenhower as a "peacemaker," publicity that did the Republican president no harm as an aspirant to re-election in 1956.

The general impression that the Geneva Conference marks a turning point in the cold war is correct. It marks the end of the stage of military disengagement that began with Eisenhower's agreement to a truce first in Korea and then in Indo-China—a retreat forced by the powerful revolutionary resistance of the Asian peoples to western imperialism.

And the Conference can be said to mark the beginning of a major effort by Washington to appear before the world as a "peacemaker" — a power interested more than all others in preventing war.

SCORES GAIN

As a major opening move on this plane, the State Department certainly scored a big gain. This success, of course, was made possible only by the cooperation of the Stalinist bureaucrats representing Moscow. Instead of ex-

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Puppet Ruler Tears Up Indo-China Truce Deal

JULY 25 — The Geneva accords that brought a truce to the civil war in Indo-China a year ago were torn to bits July 16 by Ngo Dinh Diem, the U. S. puppet that rules South Vietnam, when he made it clear that there would be no elections a year from now.

But this was not enough. A wave of terror was unleashed in Saigon, July 20, to intimidate the International Armistice Commission whose job it is to enforce the terms of the armistice.

Diem's armed gangs broke into the Majestic and Gallieni Hotels in Saigon where most of the members of the armistice commission live. They burned and sacked their way through the rooms. Sixty people were injured. According to the N. Y. Times, July 21, "A few policemen watched, but seemed unwilling or unable to stop the demonstrators."

According to Max Lerner of the N. Y. Post, "the national police stayed away for hours, knowing about the job and waiting for it to be completed — and then blamed it on Communists."

On July 23 Diem's gang of terrorists destroyed four electric transformers with bombs. On July 24 they blew out five telephone relay stations.

All three governments that are responsible for the Armistice Commission — Canada, Poland and India — protested the terror. The Indian government charged in addition that the South Vietnam regime had passed an inflammatory resolution aimed at the "elimination of Polish and Indian pro-Communist elements" from the armistice commission.

Thus all the talk that goes on in the United Nations about negotiated settlement of disputes, the sanctity of treaties and free and democratic elections is exposed as so much hogwash in the Indo-China truce.

THE TRUCE

A year ago the workers and peasants of Indo-China were close to winning a complete victory over the French imperialists who occupied their country. In the hope that victory could

be achieved without further bloodshed they permitted the Kremlin to arrange a truce at Geneva which gave imperialism a foothold in South Vietnam. A national election was promised in two years time to determine the wishes of the people. If elections were held, the revolutionary forces were confident of the outcome.

A year ago the Wall Street Journal, puzzled at Stalinist motives in signing the Geneva truce, asked itself: "The question arises why they are now agreeing to call off the war . . . They already have the French on the run — now would be a better time than later to run them all the way out."

But if the Stalinists were quite ready to sacrifice the victory of the people of Indo-China in order to convince the Wall Street imperialists of their readiness to negotiate settlements of disputes, U. S. Big Business has no intention of letting the Indo-Chinese decide their fate. The time arrived to negotiate the arrangements for next year's election and Diem, who is financed, armed and directed by Wall Street, called off the deal.

Puerto Ricans Fight Peonage in New Jersey

By Virginia Rivera

From the Spanish language press in New York City I learned about a group of Puerto Rican quarry workers near Kingston, New Jersey, who had been on strike for eleven months against the Lambertville Quarry Company. I wondered what kind of working conditions existed there that could keep men fighting for so long a time.

So last Friday I made a trip to the scene of the strike. It was the hottest day of the year and the long ride was tiring. I felt even worse when I approached the area of the quarry and saw trucks loaded with rock leaving the area. I wondered if the strike had failed to stop production.

Suddenly I turned the bend and saw a group of about twenty pickets blocking a road that went off to the left. Obviously this road led to the quarry and these were the pickets I had been looking for.

TEAMSTERS ON STRIKE

I was surprised to see that alongside the Puerto Rican pick-

ets who carried signs sponsored by the International Hod Carriers Building and Common Laborers Union, AFL, there were non-Puerto Rican workers carrying picket signs from the

AFL Teamster's Local 701. My spirits picked up. With the truck drivers out, the Puerto Ricans were no longer isolated in their struggle. After parking the car, I learned from one

of the pickets that the teamsters had been out for five weeks.

We were standing at the foot of a steep hill which was the main entrance to the quarry. While I was talking to some of the pickets several empty trucks pulled up to a stop to hear what the pickets had to say. After a few minutes conversation the trucks started to roll again. They made a wide turn at the foot of the hill, and went roaring off, away from the quarry. This was a good lesson in how effective a picket line can be.

The strike began last August when 75 quarry workers walked off their jobs. Only 15 strikers have been able to remain as pickets. The others were forced to find work elsewhere. The only help the fifteen have received steadily is from three strikers who got jobs just to pay the rent and food expenses of the fifteen pickets.

STRIKE DEMANDS

Before the strike the Puerto Rican laborers were being paid just the federal minimum wage.

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NAACP to Probe Peonage in N. J.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced July 21 that it was sending its labor secretary Herbert Hill to conduct an "on-the-spot investigation of alleged violations of federal anti-peonage and involuntary servitude statutes" at the Kingston, Pennington and Lambertville, New Jersey rock quarries. The NAACP said that "approximately 75 Puerto Rican workers have allegedly been detained under armed guard and forced to live in company-owned compounds while working long hours for substandard wages." [See story on this page about the strike of these quarry workers.]

The American Way of Life

If Ruark Had to Choose Over Again

Several layers of dirt and World-Telegram have been lying on my bathroom floor for some weeks. Through all these weeks, the printed face of one Robert C. Ruark has been looking up from that floor. The face looked as though it meant business. And the business looked phony.

Having heard somewhere that this Ruark had written a book — something for the blood-and-guts trade, I decided to clean up my bathroom, and find out — in passing, what makes Ruark scribble.

Well: Mr. Ruark turned out to be straight from the shoulder, all right — straight from the shoulder-pad, that is. He was beefing about white American male waiters: they have no pride in their profession — like European waiters, like American colored waiters, etc. etc. Waitresses, it seems, also don't suit Mr. Ruark. He, if he had to choose over again, would become a waiter — one proud of his profession. All this is the straight-from-the-shoulder style; no fancy ideas; no fancy language; the kind that reg'lar guys even tough guys appreciate — guys like Pegler, Winchell, etc. etc.

After Einstein made his "I'd be a plumber" statement, Ruark, in step with the giants of his time, opined that "he'd be a waiter," and he has a column to prove it.

Now the question arises anent Mr. Ruark: What profession does he think he's in, anyway? He writes from the standpoint of one comfortably seated at the table, passing judgment, not unpatronizingly, on the food, the service, etc. However, a closer look will disclose that this is an illusion Mr. Ruark shares mainly with those other gents with the tough shoulder-pads. Indeed, Ruark is lucky he is only a menial. If things really get tough for his bosses, Mr. Ruark will find himself coming to table along with the rest of the Mulligan stew.

However, let us not dwell on what happens to the faithful retainers when a newspaper like the Sun folds up; or more recently, the Brooklyn Eagle; or when the bosses are really in trouble. Let us rather look at the toughness of a Ruark, or a Winchell. How are they tough? And with whom?

Well: we must concede that they're pretty rough on punchbags, toy balloons, and the toes of anyone who finds himself flat on the pavement. From his safe distance, Ruark subscribes to the view that big bombs and hot lead made good Africans, good Asians — and good Americans too, if hard work and right thinking do not. But Ruark himself takes fright easily — beats it the hell out of America when his impressionable nostrils smell an A-bomb war right around the corner. He comes back, with a book and a swagger, only when his mature political savvy has proven itself safely wrong.

And Winchell? America's fearless reporter? He can scarcely open his mouth without the smell of Edgar Hoover's boots reeking from his tongue — a prevalent halitosis with publicists and politicians, these days. But with "Commies," washed-up movie hams, and society bums: with these, Winchell neither asks nor gives quarter.

An integral ingredient in the phonyness of present-day capitalist society is its "toughness," its willingness to either "take it," or "dish it out." But we know this only from their own mouths, from the mouths of the Winchells, the Ruarks, from that peculiar aperture in the face of John Foster Dulles. We have yet to see them "take it." We have yet to see them fight when the odds are really against them.

— William Godspeed

How Much of a "Gift" to Labor Is New \$1 Minimum Pay Law?

John Thayer

Increase of the national minimum wage to \$1-an-hour appeared assured as the House of Representatives, following earlier Senate action, voted the increase and Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell announced that he was recommending to Eisenhower that the bill be signed.

The House finally passed the bill on July 20 by a vote of 362 to 54. Of those voting for the \$1 minimum, 192 were Democrats and 170 Republicans. Of those voting against, 29 were Democrats and 25 Republicans. Not only were more Democrats against the increase but they represented a slightly higher percentage of their party in the House than did the Republicans who were against.

Indeed, the final stages of the fight on the bill saw a steady stream of Republican Congressmen away from Eisenhower's 90 cents-an-hour recommendation to the \$1 figure. This assured passage of the bill. On the other hand the strongest supporters of the 90-cent figure were Southern Democrats.

The Senate passed a \$1 minimum wage bill on June 8. What the two-party lineup was at that time, however, is unknown since, as the New York Times then

reported, "fewer than 25 Senators appeared to be on hand" to vote on the important bill.

There are a few differences between the bills passed in the Senate and the House. The Senate bill would increase the minimum wage levels in Puerto Rico slightly, in order to maintain the existing wage differential between that low-wage, bosses' paradise and the mainland U. S. The bill passed by the House does not mention Puerto Rico. Also the Senate bill would make the \$1 minimum effective as of Jan. 1, 1956, while the House bill would postpone it two more months.

Conspicuous by its absence in both bills was any extension of coverage. Trying to make political capital of this, Secretary of Labor Mitchell, while recommending the bill to Eisenhower, deplored the fact that it was only "half a bill." The minimum wage law change that Eisenhower asked in his State of the Union message to the opening session of this Congress "would have given to many millions of low-paid workers the protection they need," Mitchell added.

Before the election of this Congress, Democrats in the North campaigned with promises to labor that they would not only increase the minimum wage

to \$1.25 but would extend the law's coverage to at least four million more workers in interstate commerce and remove the exemptions on occupations employing another two and a half million.

Thus both capitalist parties were committed to broadening the coverage of the law. How come neither the Senate nor House bill does so? The answer to this "riddle" is that the strategists of the Democratic Party, who control both Houses, decided to extend the law's coverage next year rather than this. They hope thereby to pass themselves off as "friends of labor" twice rather than just once. Moreover, doing it next summer will help the Democrats in the 1956 presidential election campaign.

In the meantime the Congressional "friends of labor" are quite content to let millions of underpaid workers and their families continue for another year trying to get along on wages below \$1-an-hour.

Both the AFL and the CIO have long been agitating for a \$1.25 minimum wage. Many labor-supported Democrats said they would fight for it in Congress. Yet no serious fight was made. Those few Congressmen who went on record before at hearings for \$1.25, did so in a perfunctory fashion. The \$1.25 proposal was voted down in the Democratic-controlled labor committees in both House and Senate.

The Democratic Party propagandists are trying to pass off the \$1-an-hour minimum wage as a great gift to labor, and the trade union press is abetting them in this. Actually the figure is pitifully inadequate. It represents a big retreat from labor's original, modest demand.

The first federal minimum wage law went into effect in 1938 during the Roosevelt administration. It set the starvation figure of 25 cents-an-hour as the minimum. In 1945 this was increased to 40 cents. In 1949 the Democratic 81st Congress under Truman made 75 cents the minimum. This was hopelessly insufficient to meet the inflated cost of living. The very House Labor Committee which reported the bill, called it "inadequate."

Yet this obsolete figure remained in effect for five years while prices again were sky-

rocketed by the Korean "police action" and the huge cold-war military budgets. Nor will the new minimum of \$1 represent any real increase.

CIO statisticians have shown that the increased cost of living and the national average man-hour increase in productivity would demand a new minimum of at least \$1.06-an-hour merely to maintain the "inadequate" minimum set in 1949.

Furthermore there has been a deterioration in the law's coverage since it was originally passed in 1938. More occupations have been excluded from the law; more employers have been granted exemptions from the wage and hour provisions.

Those workers now getting from 75 to 99 cents-an-hour, if they are covered by the law, will receive increases of from \$10 maximum to 40 cents (less increased tax deductions) for a 40-hour week. The Department of Labor estimates that approximately 2,100,000 workers, mostly in the South, will be so benefited. They will receive \$40 (less deductions) for a 40-hour week or \$2,000 (less deductions) for a year (assuming two weeks of vacation or unemployment), when the law goes into effect next year.

The Research Department of the CIO Textile Workers Union has brought up to date the annual cost of a "necessary minimum" budget for a family of four fixed by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1951 after a survey of prices in 34 American cities. The figure today varies from \$3,812 in the least expensive city up to \$4,454. Thus to live on the "necessary minimum" in the cheapest city (New Orleans) the breadwinner for a family of four today needs a minimum wage of \$1.95-an-hour.

During the depression the WPA drew up an "emergency budget . . . which may be necessary under depressed conditions" for a family of four. It warned of "health hazards if families had to live at this level for a considerable period of time."

Brought up to date by CIO statisticians, this budget comes to \$2,430 for a year. That would require a minimum wage of \$1.22-an-hour for a full work year of 2,000 hours. Yet the ten-cent "friends of labor" are crowing about their great work in passing the \$1-an-hour minimum.

We're Water Boys For Walter

By Art Sharon

It was to be expected that following the recent contract settlement in the auto industry, CIO leader Walter Reuther would picture himself as a great labor statesman

pioneering a new advance with his so-called Guaranteed Annual Wage. And it appears that this image of himself is accepted by about everybody except the one who counts most — the guy with the lunch pail.

The worker on the production line does not share the general esteem for the UAW chief and he gave convincing demonstration of his feelings in the series of rank-and-file strikes that broke out upon the signing of the new agreement.

This gap between the ranks of the auto union and its leadership is duplicated almost everywhere in the American labor movement. It is rooted in the simple fact that the labor bureaucracy, having won a place for itself close to the front table where the feeding is pretty good, is determined to prove that it can be of service to big American capital.

But to be of service in the year 1955 is, in the last analysis, to join up with the foreman, the supervisor and the time-study men to get more production out of the line. An unending and continuous battle goes on daily between those subject to the murderous pressure of the line, and management forces seeking to maintain and increase speed and output.

In this daily struggle all union politics begin. All the wise-aces and smart commentators fail to understand the first thing about what is going on in the auto union because they cannot understand this vital and basic conflict.

IN REUTHER'S CORNER

How revealing it is then to read what the spokesman of the American Stalinists in the labor movement has to say about developments in auto. George Morris, labor expert of the Daily Worker, writing a series in that paper July 11-15 on the auto and steel settlements puts the Stalinists four-square in Walter Reuther's corner.

Apparently concerned that Communist Party adherents working in the plants might follow their class instincts and respond to the discontent and dissatisfaction of the workers on the line, Morris does a job from the left for the labor statesman.

Acting as water boy for Reuther and McDonald, knowing full well that they won't acknowledge the service publicly, is no deterrent to Morris.

With just enough criticism to make his pitch plausible, the Stalinist labor expert goes to work on how to interpret the so-called "wild cat" strikes that

followed the negotiations of Reuther's team. After he finishes, the credulous reader of the Daily Worker would have to believe that these rank and file explosions were really pro-Reuther demonstrations.

And to make the point stick, Morris charges that it is unfortunate factionalism that sees "the local strikes as anti-Reuther when in effect they were against the company FOR additional local demands."

Of course these strikes were against the companies, but at the same time they expressed the deep hostility and resentment of the ranks over the agreement negotiated by Reuther. The desperate attempts by the Reutherites to end these strikes made clear how they viewed them.

RANK-AND-FILE STRIKES

These rank-and-file strikes, so-called "wild cat strikes," won concessions that had otherwise been ignored or bargained away by the Reutherite negotiators. All the subsurface power and militancy of the ranks came pouring out in great demonstrations. All the discontent, dissatisfaction and resentment of the auto workers exploded in these strikes.

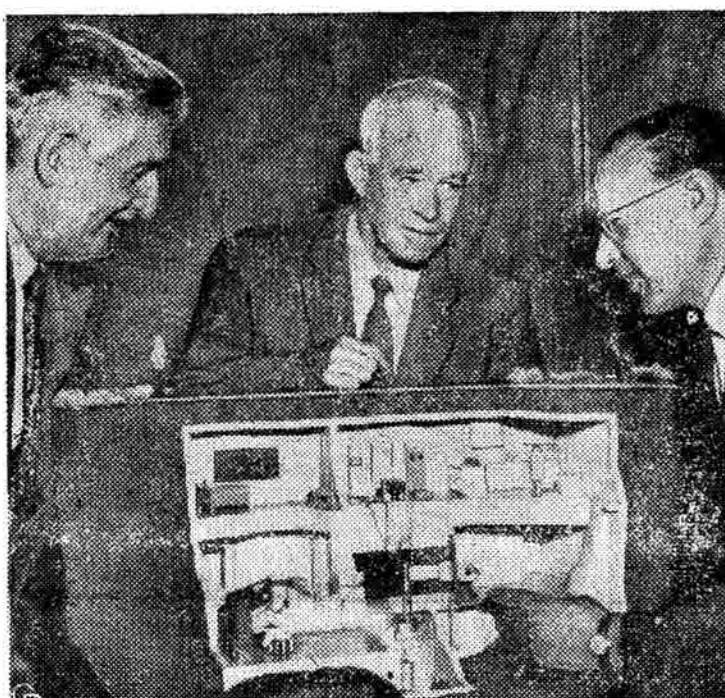
Can the Reutherites contain and defeat this power? By themselves it is hopelessly out of the question. To head off the discontent and antagonism of the ranks a new and more skillful lemagogy is needed. And this is the service that the Stalinists offer.

Why, it may be asked, should the Stalinists make such a determined bid to get into the Reuther tent?

The answer becomes obvious when the current Stalinist political line is understood. They have set their course upon the creation of a new popular front. They seek unity with the top labor bureaucracy inside the Democratic Party; and in order to achieve this they have taken their stand with them in the conflict between the rank and file and the leadership of the auto union.

George Morris's articles are the most serious bid to date for admission into Reuther's camp. They must be understood as giving the line for the coming political campaign in 1956. For political coalition with the labor bureaucrats in the Democratic Party, the Stalinist leaders consider that knifing the interests of the men on the production line is a small enough price to pay.

Model of Medical A-Reactor



A scale model of the first atomic energy reactor designed for medical research is viewed in Los Angeles by Dr. Stafford L. Warren (left), dean of the University of California; Gen. Omar Bradley, chairman of the board, Calif. Inst. for Cancer Research; and Dr. Chauncey Starr, vice-president of the company which will build the device. The reactor will be constructed underground on the UCLA campus. With the machine, radiation can be directed on a patient a few feet away.

... Puerto Ricans Fight UMT BILL TO GIVE BRASS CONTROL OF U. S. YOUTH

(Continued from page 1)

75c an hour, for work that pays \$2.45 in other New Jersey areas. The work was dangerous and the hours were long, and they had to live in a Company camp.

The Puerto Ricans are asking for \$1.25 an hour and higher rates for jobs that are the most dangerous. In addition, they want overtime pay and fringe benefits including paid holidays.

The quarry is still operating. We heard dynamite blasts while we were talking. The pickets told me that the company imported Puerto Rican strike-breakers from New York City. They brought them in during the night and kept them under armed guard in the Company's camps.

One of the pickets took us to see their present living quarters. We rode down the hill and turned off the road into a kind of gulley. There was a large red shack—the rooms were barren without furniture. In the front of the "house" were some rocks and tin cans that had been arranged to serve as a stove for cooking meals. This is where the pickets go to eat and sleep after a long day of picket duty.

When we returned to the picket line I asked one of the truck drivers if their union would stay out until the laborers also got a contract. "Of course," was the reply. "These fellows have been fighting longer than we have. We picket together. No one goes back until we all go back."

One of the men carrying a Teamster's sign told me he was not a truck driver. He is an engineer. "Three engineers are out," he said. "I came out with the Teamsters and they're going to get me back on the job. My union hasn't done a thing for us."

The pickets had high hopes of winning the strike against the Company that rakes in profits from peonage labor conditions. And I admired the spirit of these strikers. But as I made my way back home through the heavy traffic, I couldn't help but ask myself why these strikers had to live in such terrible poverty month after month—why they had to get along on practically nothing and live in a barren shack with only stones to cook on—when they were members of two powerful and rich union organizations.

The Teamsters' Union, I have heard, is one of the richest unions in the world. What is all that wealth and power for, if not to help the workers get organized?

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A peacetime universal military training system will go into effect for the first time in U.S. history when Congress passes the Reserves Bill this week. Both houses have already adopted variants of the measure and conferees have agreed on a final draft.

This Reserves Bill is a supplement to the four year extension of the draft law voted by Congress on June 28.

On previous occasions, draft laws were always presented as war-time measures or related to specific alleged "national emergencies."

However, the current draft extension and Reserves Bill are being enacted without even the benefit of such excuses. On the contrary their passage coincides with negotiations to bring about a truce in the cold war.

These two measures mark, therefore, the introduction into the U. S. of the system of a standing peace-time army based on compulsory universal military training. Under this system the reactionary officers' caste is given mastery over the youth of the country.

It was to escape similar blighting of the best years of their lives that innumerable Europeans in the 19th century fled from Europe to America. Now the Prussian system is becoming a permanent feature of capitalist rule in the U. S.

It is true that under the system being enacted by Congress, young men will not have to give up the staggering number of years to the military brass which featured the Prussian system of the 19th century. These usually numbered a minimum of five years of active service followed by numerous years in the reserves.

Nevertheless, the current U. S. compulsory military training system will subject every male youth to from six to eight years control by the labor and Negro-hating U. S. brass hats.

Thus, if drafted, a young man

will have to serve a two year hitch in the active army, followed by three-year service in the ready reserves and one year in the stand-by reserves. Service in the active reserves would require that he participate in 48 drills plus 17 days of field training per year.

Or youths 17 to 18½ can escape the two-years draft by volunteering for six months in the active army, followed by seven-and-a-half years in the ready reserves.

In opposing passage of the Reserves Bill the CIO, through Thomas Burke, chief of congressional liaison, denounced what it called imposing "arbitrary military jurisdiction" over young people, when they "should be awakening to the fuller dimensions of American life."

The CIO also pointed out a number of inequities members of the ready reserves would suffer as working men. For instance, if they worked afternoon shifts, they might have to lose work-time to attend weekly night drills. Then, they would probably have to devote their vacation time to field training. And they might be discriminated against in hiring or promotion because of conflict between job and military duties.

Enactment of a UMT measure gives the lie to Eisenhower's proclamations at Geneva that he pursues the goal of world peace. The Administration's "new look" military program — of which the draft extension and Reserves Bill are part — rather underscores that for U. S. Big Business the Geneva truce is only a breathing spell in which to prepare for World War III.

[See Negro Struggle column on page four for more on Reserve Bill fight.]

... Kremlin Gives

(Continued from page 1)

posing the drive toward imperialism war that is inherent in the capitalist economic system represented by Eisenhower, Khrushchev and the others of his crew granted precisely what Dulles wanted, an admission of the peaceful intentions of American imperialism.

If peace were so easy to achieve, if it hinged simply on the goodwill of the heads of states, on the clearing up of personal misapprehensions and misunderstandings, then the world could sleep with tranquillity following Geneva. But certain brute facts interfere.

First of all, despite all the soothing talk about peace, neither side offered to withdraw a single troop from the areas it occupies.

Secondly, despite the sanctimonious discussion about disarmament, the war plants continue to hammer out the castings for H-Bombs and all the rest of the instruments capable of leveling civilization to the ground.

PUBLICITY STUNT

Eisenhower, it is true, offered to open up America's military blueprints and military areas to Soviet inspection. This was greeted by the press as a clever publicity stunt. There was no indication that the Soviet heads would accept the offer since it meant by way of reciprocity that American planes would be permitted to make aerial photographs of the Soviet Union — an operation that we may suppose is indicated as highly desirable on the really secret blueprints of the Third World War projected by Wall Street. What Moscow would learn by similar aerial reconnaissance over the U. S. would not be much.

Yet Khrushchev, Bulganin, etc. were so eager to prove their amiability that they let Eisenhower get away with even this gross piece of hypocrisy.

What prevents the world power from achieving enduring peace are certain deep-going contradictions in capitalist economy, above all the enormous profits in the hands of the capitalist class require investment on a world scale. But this financial and economic operation requires political stability abroad — that

means foreign governments under Wall Street's control.

American Big Business requires monopoly control over the raw materials of the globe. Maintenance of that control requires troops, either native or American.

The American capitalists cannot suffer competition, in the long run, even from other capitalist classes, including the aspiring capitalist classes of the colonial areas.

WORLD RESISTANCE

Yet in the face of such basic needs that drive American capitalist interests across our frontiers, the majority of the world's population seeks independence, the development of national security and their own well being. In fact there are tens and even hundreds of millions of people abroad who seek to transcend the capitalist system and achieve the higher order of socialism.

This desire had its first successful explosive action in the November 1917 revolution in Russia. In the wake of that revolution a series of further revolutionary explosions occurred after World War II, above all in China.

The leaders of American Big Business understand full well that in the final analysis they can put down these developments and make the world safe for capitalism only by war — war on a scale never seen in history.

But they also know that such a war can prove suicidal, particularly under the present relation of forces. They discovered this in action in Korea.

As the bourgeoisie with its long political experience in analogous situations always does, it called a retreat in hope of gaining time, strength and a better position. American capitalism especially needed to mend its diplomatic fences — to remove the curse of being openly recognized throughout the world as the main fount of the drive toward atomic destruction.

Relaxing world tension, American Big Business now stands on the world stage, olive branch in hand.

But the world had better listen to that sound off the stage. It is the beating of steel into armaments in preparation for another war.

THE MILITANT ARMY

The heat wave that has blanketed the country from the Rockies to the Atlantic Ocean in the past few weeks has failed to put a stop to the activities of the Militant Army, which, as is well known, is not a seasonal job.

Several agents have ordered from 800 to 1,000 extra copies of the Militant for special work and distributions. It is too early as yet for the reports on these activities to be in. However, Myrna Woods writes from Cleveland: "On Saturday Woodrow Chace, Andrea Morgan, Marvin Scalia and I distributed the thousand Militants. As soon as any results come in we will let you know."

During the sub campaign the practice of mass distribution proved quite effective. In a number of cases sales attempts were made at the same points where distributions had taken place. The sales results proved that considerable interest in the paper was aroused by the initial distribution.

Every day brings in some subscriptions — some new, some renewals — from all parts of the country. This is another indication of the serious approach taken at the end of the campaign to continue the work begun at that time. Roberta Frehltz writes from Allentown: "I am sending money for two one-year subs, one a new one and one a renewal."

The New York Local informs us that "19 papers were sold in an hour-and-a-half on a Brooklyn street corner by Eleanor Forstmann and George Hauser. Three copies of the issue containing the text of the Einstein statement were sold by Ronald Breck while Bert Fenner and Ruth Hutzler sold eight of the same issue, and Johnny Tabor and John Adams sold five at the New School for Social Research. Two of the students were interested in further discussions, while one wants to attend forums."

From numerous areas come reports of picnics being planned. These picnics enable our friends to enjoy cool air away from heated cities and towns. These are occasions for new and old readers to become acquainted.

New subscribers who would like to be notified of such events should write to us and we will put them in touch with the nearest group of Militant readers.



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PIONEER PUBLISHERS
116 University Place
New York 3, New York

By George Lavan

Each day's newspaper chronicles the speed with which Morocco is moving toward revolution. This has more than ordinary interest for the thousands of American families whose sons, husbands and brothers are stationed in the seething French colony. If Morocco becomes another Indo-China or Korea, what will be the role of the U. S. troops now there?

What are the issues in Morocco? Where should the sympathies of American workers lie? To answer these questions, the background must be briefly sketched in.

Morocco, which resembles California in area, population, topography and climate, had been an independent country for over 1,000 years when the 20th Century dawned. But in the first decade of this century, the imperialist powers, having carved up the rest of the world, turned their eyes on Morocco. For a while its independence was preserved by a stalemate as to who should get the prize. In fact World War I nearly broke out in 1906, rather than eight years later, over Morocco.

TREATY OF ALGEIRAS

A conclave of the imperialists averted war with the Treaty of Algeiras. This treaty guaranteed the independence of Morocco, "internationalized" it economically, i.e. opened it to all imperialist nations. The U. S. along with other nations, signed and ratified this treaty.

However, secret treaties between Britain and France about Morocco existed. These were carried out in 1912 when the solemn guarantee of Moroccan independence was ignored and France forced a Protectorate on the Arab kingdom.

Technically, Morocco was still a country. It kept its own Sultan and ambassadors to other countries, etc. In fact the French Army and a French Resident General took over running the country. The "protection" racket

of the imperialists differs only in scale, from the practice of American gangsters. Once the protectors get a foot in the door they take over the protectee's business.

The Moroccan people resisted the French imperialists every inch of the way. In fact the most remote sections of the country were not subdued until 1934 — 32 years after the invasion.

Part of the secret imperialist deal was that France would not keep all of Morocco — a section would go to Spain and Tangier would be run by an international commission. Thus French imperialism after forcing a protectorate treaty on the Moroccan Sultan, subtlet, as it were, considerable sections of this "independent" country to other nations.

FRENCH RULE

Here are some of the results of over 40 years of French "protection." The Moroccan peasants' land has been steadily expropriated. One of the results is that the Moroccan people, who are 90% agricultural, now have a lower standard of living than before the French took over. For example 2 1/2 million acres of the best land now belongs to 4-

200 French 'colons' (settlers). Before French occupation, Morocco was an important exporter of grain, today it is an importer. Moreover, famines, far surpassing any known before the French, now recur as in 1937 and in 1945 when over a million Moroccan peasants and workers died of starvation.

Forced labor is imposed on thousands of native peasants. Those that still have plots of land are often forced to leave their fields and work on the crops of the 'colons' or anyone in authority. Landless peasants are forced to work on French estates for practically nothing (the minimum wage in industry is 11 cents an hour, in agriculture it is non-existent.)

French capitalism uses Morocco as a milk cow. It is forced to import products from France at high prices and export to France at low prices. French capitalists, banks and colons own almost everything, the Moroccan nothing. Super-exploited labor yields tremendous profits. French capital manipulates the Moroccan currency to the benefit of itself and impoverishment of Morocco.

The poverty-stricken Moroccans are burdened with taxes, while there are hardly any on

the wealthy French settlers. For example there is a 15% tax on sugar, while jewelry, furs, and other luxuries bought by the French residents are untaxed.

HUGE BUREAUCRACY

With the taxes squeezed from the poor the French have erected a huge government bureaucracy, whose main purpose is to provide well-paid, easy jobs for Frenchmen. From 1938 to 1940 the bureaucracy was more than doubled in numbers. Relatively speaking it is the most costly civil service in the world. In 1951 its salaries consumed over 80% of Morocco's revenue. No wonder so little is left for public health, education, etc. Yet with the racism, introduced by the French imperialists, only a small minority of Moroccans are in the civil service and these are mostly doormen, sweepers, messengers, etc.

Illiteracy has grown under French rule. While there are good public schools for every French child in Morocco, there are public schools for less than 8% of the native children. Private schools, supported by the Moroccans, have been harassed and closed by the imperialists, who want to keep the masses ignorant.

For over nine million Moroccans there are only 250 state-employed doctors. The rate of native infant mortality is over 28%. The highest in the world. The peasants live in miserable huts. The workers in the cities live in slums or "bidonvilles"— huge shanty towns made of packing crates and flattened tin cans (bidon in French means tin can).

The Moroccans are deprived of even having definite civil or criminal laws. While there is a written code of laws for the French population, there is none for the native. Hauled before a court, a Moroccan can be charged with anything the police desire and sentenced to whatever the judge feels like. Thousands of non-political prisoners have served long terms, including solitary confinement and hard labor, without ever knowing what "law" they were supposed to have violated.

NO CIVIL LIBERTIES

Not only is their country carved up into three different colonies, the Moroccans cannot even travel through French Morocco freely. It is divided into zones, and passports — hard to get for natives, not needed by Frenchmen — are required to pass from one zone to another.

The Moroccans have no civil liberties. The French declared a state of emergency in 1914 and have never revoked it. Freedom of speech, of assembly and of the press are non-existent. Moroccan labor unions, political parties and other organizations are forbidden — even the Boy Scouts were banned in 1942.

Yet the whole brutal mechanism of imperialist repression has failed. The unbelievably bloody reign of terror instituted by the police and army, too, has failed. Like other colonial peoples the Moroccans are thirsting for freedom. Moreover, a working class has come into existence to spark and lead the fight.

[Next week: The Moroccan People Fight Back.]

Attention J. Edgar Hoover

We respectfully call the attention of J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the FBI, to a most sinister case of subversion that could well mean the end to the whole security system so painfully built up since Truman issued his Loyalty Order in 1947 and purged the government of communists, socialists, radicals, free thinkers and sexual perverts.

The derogatory information that has come to our attention is nothing less than an offer by the present incumbent of the White House to a gathering of top Kremlin agents behind closed doors in the foreign city of Geneva that should make what hair the FBI chief has left stand on end.

The offer was that we "give to each other a complete blueprint of our military establishments from beginning to end. Next to provide within our countries facilities for aerial photography."

We expect that the head of the FBI will take immediate action in accordance with the Loyalty Program.

First of all, the guilty government employee should be fired at once as an obvious security risk. If he demands a hearing, we suggest he be given the standard run-around as part of the punishment.

Next, it should be determined whether he was given the usual Loyalty Oath on taking office. If not, his accomplices in avoiding the Oath should be fired at once. If he did take the Oath an investigation should be launched at once for possible perjury proceedings.

We respectfully suggest also that the FBI at once determine just who in the State Department was responsible for issuing a passport to this government employee permitting him to travel abroad in foreign countries where he could meet Kremlin agents in secret gatherings.

This, it seems to us, is the minimum action required by the FBI. More, of course, should be considered.

For instance, we note that the Rosenberg couple were charged with passing on to the Enemy only some minor blueprints. They denied the charge to the end. Nevertheless they were electrocuted.

In this case not a few minor blueprints are involved but "a complete blueprint of our military establishments from beginning to end." And as if that were not enough, letting down our immigration barriers and radar defenses to pilots and planes of the Enemy and letting them take aerial photographs of the entire country including our A-bomb and H-bomb plants. What should the punishment for that be?

To be sure, Hoover can take another course, one more in keeping with reality, that is to publicly acknowledge that the whole Loyalty Program and Spy Hunt were deliberately cooked up as a gigantic hoax on the public — part of a nationwide witch hunt aimed at all dissident thinkers, but especially radical-minded workers. That was why they were hounded from jobs, blacklisted and terrorized.

The hot potato is yours, Mr. Hoover.

The Most Important Right of All

In the last several weeks, U.S. courts have handed down the following rulings: The Federal government can't deny a citizen his passport without due process of law, because that is arbitrary.

The Federal government can't — without due process of law — evict a tenant from a housing project who refuses to sign a "loyalty oath," because that is arbitrary.

Thus a U.S. citizen has been found to have the constitutional right to travel, and to live in a government housing project.

But when will the courts uphold the most vital right of all — namely, to hold a job and earn a livelihood?

Thousands of government workers have been fired arbitrarily for alleged political

ideas or association with organizations arbitrarily listed by the U.S. Attorney General as "subversive."

All talk of freedom is a mockery as long as the freedom to a livelihood is taken away. And it's not only a question of government employees. The Attorney General's "subversive" list has been utilized by employers in industries far removed from any "security" areas to build up a political blacklist and victimize thousands of workers who have the "wrong ideas."

If, as the courts now maintain, the government must observe constitutional safeguards in its capacity of passport dispenser and landlord, why not also in its capacity of employer?

What's In a Name?

The name of the merged labor movement will be the "AFL and CIO" according to the agreement reached by conferees of both organizations.

This dual name is symbolic. It points up all the weak sides of the unification. The merger does not take place as a result of an upheaval in the class struggle that brings about genuine fusion of all organized workers under a new program and leadership.

It takes place through agreement among top bureaucrats without actively involving the membership in formulating unity terms.

The top agreement leaves the entire bureaucratic structure in the affiliates of both organizations intact. All the baronies continue undisturbed. Labor czars rule over their respective empires as before. None of the revenue, prestige and power of the top officialdom in any of the unions is to be disturbed one iota by the merger.

What the dual name symbolizes, therefore, is that the AFL-CIO merger begins

as a bloc among top bureaucrats rather than a genuine unification.

But the impact of the merger will carry the AFL and CIO much further than that. For, in future upsurges of the working class, the ranks will take a hand.

Even now they sense the vastly increased potential power that unification brings to labor, and they favor the merger, despite its bureaucratic auspices.

When the merged organization launches great new organizing drives; when it undertakes a fight to win a thirty-hour week at forty-hours pay; when it breaks with the Democratic Party and builds a Labor Party — then this will also mean a complete overhauling of the structure of the labor movement.

New leaders will come forward from the ranks of the workers to put this program into effect. They will collide with and replace the present class-collaborationist and bureaucratic gang.

The labor movement will be united from top to bottom and will emerge invincible in its struggles against U.S. Big Business.

The Talbott Case

The current investigation of Secretary of Air Force, Harold E. Talbott, is part of the Democratic Party strategy for 1956. This strategy is quite simple. The Republicans are attacked as the "party of Big Business" and the Democrats represent themselves as the party of the common man.

Talbott, in addition to his \$18,000 government salary draws \$50,000 a year as a partner in the engineering firm of Paul B. Mulligan and Co. According to his testimony it is mere coincidence that his firm and personal profits zoomed while he was Secretary of the Air Force.

Talbott's case is one of a series. There was the case of Defense Secretary Wilson, formerly head of the General Motors Corporation. Wilson tried to explain that there was no contradiction between his being a big wheel in GM while handing out contracts to it as head of the Defense Department. "What's good for GM is good for the country," he argued.

Then there is the more recent case of Adolphe Wenzell. He was a paid consultant for the Budget Bureau which approved the Dixon-Yates contract. At the same time he was vice-president of the First Boston

Corporation which became the financial agent in the Dixon-Yates deal.

These Democratic Party revelations about Big Business greed and crookedness conceal two important facts.

(1) Under the Democratic administrations Big Business executives are infested Washington. Remember the "dollar-a-year" men during World War II? Remember Knudsen, also a president of the GM corporation? Remember the cost-plus contracts through which these boys handed out billions to their pals?

(2) Big Business does not depend on direct representation in Government departments to maintain their rule in the U.S. They are the real economic and political power by virtue of their private ownership of the means of production. This private ownership of the huge industrial power of the U.S. gives them their control of newspapers, radio, TV, movies, schools, and above all the two capitalist parties.

Big Business rule in the U.S. will be smashed only when this power of ownership of wealth in the means of production is taken away from the capitalists and turned over to a Workers and Farmers Government where it belongs.

U.S. Planes Used Against Algeria

The U.S. government is no neutral in the struggle between the Algerian nationalist movement and French imperialism. U. S. aid is going to the French.

The July-August issue of *Toward Freedom*, a newsletter on colonial affairs, published in Chicago gives the following information: The Air Force press desk in Washington on Feb. 21 confirmed that an American plane and pilot dropped French paratroopers over Algeria on Feb. 4 in an operation against the revolutionary forces.

On June 23, the French

government announced that Washington granted priorities for helicopters to be used by the French army in Algeria. The "whirlybirds" are of crucial importance in guerilla warfare.

"On precisely the same day," says *Toward Freedom*, "the House of Representatives without opposition called for a foreign policy to support other peoples to achieve self-government or independence."

That resolution was aimed solely against the Kremlin and conveniently overlooked Eisenhower's aid to French imperialism.

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Our Readers Take the Floor

Craft Union Jigsaw Puzzle

Editor:

In the June 13th issue at the bottom of page 3, there appeared an item that stated:

"The Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, largest of the independent rail unions, is understood to be talking merger with AFL-CIO. By joining the new labor federation the BRT would have to surrender 8,000 bus drivers and 8,000 switchmen to other AFL unions."

I know that this is an awfully late date to comment on it, but here goes anyway.

It would be better if you'd spell it Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

The BRT claims about 80,000 switchmen, and the Switchmen's Union of North America, AFL, has about 10,000 to 12,000 members. The BRT prides itself on being negotiating in inclusion in the merger; the Board of Directors has given their approval; and every indication is that it will go through. While the BRT will likely be willing to give up its bus drivers to the Amalgamated, it certainly will not give up nearly half of its membership to get into the merger.

It seems to me that the most likely variant would be for the BRT to swallow up the little SUNA if the affiliation goes through.

The head of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen is also negotiating to bring his organization into the merger. The head of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers has been publicly critical of the unit agreement as not giving sufficient consideration to small unions. Apparently he couldn't get the deal he wanted. The head of the Order of Railway Conductors and Brakemen has been more or less friendly but publicly non-committal regarding affiliation for his organization. I believe that chances are excellent for the inclusion of all the operating rail unions in a fairly short time.

C.S.
Minneapolis, Minn.

On Baltimore's Jim Crow Taverns

Editor:

Baltimore, I am aware, is a damned peculiar place, but the interpretation of the Supreme Court's ruling that segregation is illegal, in regard to taverns in Baltimore, is the most unusual which has ever come to my attention.

As things stand now, Judge Wilmanley has ruled, in effect, that the tavern owners do not have to pay any attention to the Constitution of the United States, if

or Supreme Court decisions, but can make their own laws.

I believe it would be well worth your while to get some photographs of Negroes, who when in white neighborhoods, cannot drink beer in a tavern on a hot day, but have to buy a bottle of beer, then go to an alley, sit down if they can find some place to sit, and enjoy the cooling drink, provided that no cops comes along to chase them.

Baltimore is some place!
D. S.
Baltimore, Md.

Women's Wages

Editor:

On your issue of May 30, 1955, you have a filler which states: Women hold 29% of the jobs in the U.S. but they receive only 60% as much pay as men for equal work. Now ordinarily I hold the Militant in high regard for its well documented articles and reliable sources of information but in this case your information seems to be a little bit dated.

Sixteen years ago, in 1939, that is, a woman almost made 60% of what men made—to be exact 59.1%. But then the equal pay for equal work laws began to be passed and the slogan equal pay for equal work became very popular, like a pacifier to a baby. And, just like a pacifier, there was nothing to it. The bosses, always happy with loophole legislation, point with pride to the few states that passed equal pay laws, mumble the merry phrase in their beards, AND CUT the percentage of women's wages compared to men's to 44.1% in 1951.

Here is a scale from the pamphlet, *Women As Workers*; a statistical guide, page 87 (U.S. Dept. of Labor — *Women's Bureau D-65 50*): Percent Women's Median Income was of Men's Median Income

1939	59.1
1945	47.1
1947	50.5
1948	48.6
1949	48.8
1950	45.1
1951	44.1

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, taken by major occupational groups, the gap between men's and women's wages is widest in Sales Workers—33.2% or out one-third: Women's Median wage or salary income in 1951 — \$1,361; Men's Median wage or salary income in 1951 — \$3,083.

I'd like to quote the same book on the question of families here both the husband and wife work:

"Both the extent to which wives participate in the labor force and the level of their wages are getting—Ed.]

force and the level of wives' incomes when they do work are directly related to the husbands' incomes. The percent of wives in the labor force decreases markedly in accordance with the husbands' incomes. Whereas about one-third of the wives were working in families in which the husbands' incomes were between \$1,000 and \$3,000, only about one-seventh of the wives were working when their husbands' incomes were \$6,000 or more. Furthermore, 1951 data show that the median income of working wives of husbands with incomes of \$4,000 or more was close to \$2,000, while incomes of wives whose husbands earned less than \$2,000 a year was only about \$1,000.

"Among the reasons for these relationships may be the fact that husbands and wives tend to have similar backgrounds, education, experience, and work qualifications; furthermore, wives of higher-income men may be reluctant to accept low-paying jobs, since their need for additional income is less pressing than in low-income families."

And for any man or woman who hasn't militantly fought in their union for contracts featuring equal pay, seniority in hiring, firing, promotion, training, and maternity leaves, let me show them who benefited from their apathy. According to the National Association of Manufacturers, and statistics from the Federal Reserve Board in New York City, manufacturers made 5.4 billion dollars profit from the difference paid to women for the same or similar work done by men in 1951. (Dr. Furst, "The Neurotic, His Inner and Outer Worlds" — quoting Grace Hutchins in "Women Who Work").

Thanks again for putting out such a wonderful paper.
J. J.
San Francisco, Cal.

In her very informative letter, J.J. gives statistics for median wages. In the event any readers are unclear about median and average, the following may help. Average is the total divided by the number of individuals involved. Median is the mid-point for all those involved; half would be above that figure and the other half below. Thus if five people received wages respectively of \$3, \$4, \$5, \$7, and \$18, the average wage would be \$7.40, but the median wage would be \$5. Median wage figures give a more accurate picture of the situation. Thus when a corporation or the government gives an average wage and salary statistic, into which the sky-high salaries of the executives have been lumped, the average will be distorted as far as seeing what the average worker is getting.—Ed.]

THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT

ERNMENT explained why the 16-year-old African winner of a Kent scholarship was refused a passport to travel to Kent, Conn., for studies. Dr. van Rooyen, information officer of Native Affairs Department, explained that the youth failed to get a certificate of character from the police department. The police saw "no point in issuing a certificate," the N.Y. Times reported, because they had advance information that the passport would be refused.

BUGANDA'S KING

will be permitted to return from English exile to rule one million tribesmen. It was announced July 27. The King, Mutesa II, was exiled in 1953 by the British because the King would not "obey orders" as he was supposed to do according to the agreement signed by his predecessor in 1900.

THE STALINISTS OUSTED

the secretary general of the Communist Party of Uruguay, Eugenio Gomez, on charges of serving "Yankee Imperialism" and placed Rodney Arismendi at the head of the party. Gomez's son was previously ousted on a similar charge.

HIROSHIMA MAYOR

Tadao Watanabe, appealed to the Big Four at Geneva to ban all nuclear weapons and prohibit their production. "The atom bomb," he said, "must not be used even for retaliation."

ONE BIG ACHIEVEMENT

in Geneva, according to N.Y. Herald Tribune correspondent, Marguerite Higgins, was that Moscow and Washington "confirmed their convictions that neither side wanted or was planning a hydrogen war." — Then why the stockpiling of nuclear weapons?

SIT DOWN STRIKE IN CUBAN BANKS

that began July 22 was declared illegal by the Ministry of Labor. The strike against all Cuban branches of the First National City Bank of New York was in support of a demand for a 20% increase in wages. National City refused to negotiate and the strike spread to all Cuban banks. The strikers

ONE WAY TO WIN AN ELECTION

was demonstrated in Sanghar, Pakistan, July 21. The Chief Minister of Sind Province, Mohammed Ayub Khuhro wanted to be elected to the Provincial Assembly. He filed nomination papers in accordance with election rules. When four other aspiring candidates arrived to file, they were picked up by police, taken 20 miles into the jungle, kept four hours, then driven deeper into the jungle and held another four hours. When they finally got back on foot their cars were missing. They decided to "concede defeat" and Khuhro was "elected unopposed."

TWENTY ONE FREEMASONS IN SPAIN

will be transferred to federal prisons on July 27 to serve their sentences. They were convicted last November in a secret trial on charges of organizing a masonic lodge in Barcelona in 1944. Free masonry was outlawed in Spain in 1940. One of those convicted was sentenced to a 15-year term.

A LABORITE PLEA

in the British House of Commons to call off the planned Hydrogen bomb test was rejected by the Eden government on July 25. The laborites asked for a worldwide ban on nuclear tests until scientists had completed studies on radiation dangers.

ANTI-U.S. FEELING GROWS

in Mexico among people both in and out of government as Guatemalan refugees are submitted to police surveillance. Mexicans feel the U. S. is responsible for police tampering with the right of political asylum. In addition there is popular sympathy for the refugees.

CANADA GETS HORROR TREATMENT

with the visit of Val Peterson, U. S. Civil Defense Administrator, to Toronto. Newspaper journalist, Frank Tumpene, objected strongly that "no useful purpose is served by continuing attempts to scare the liver and lights out of every man, woman and child on the continent." He quoted Peterson as saying, "The Third World War will obliterate every big city in North America." Furthermore, Peterson expressed the view that the elimination of war was not very likely.

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The Negro Struggle

Mine Union Speaks on Jim Crow and UMT

In the recent fight against the military reserve bill the magazine of the militant, but politically conservative, United Mine Workers, carried on an especially vigorous campaign both on the Jim Crow national guard issue as well as against militarization of the country. Here are excerpts from the lead editorial of the July 1, United Mine Workers Journal:

"Just who do President Eisenhower and the 'great brains' on Capitol Hill who regard themselves as military 'experts' think they are kidding with all their phony accusations against those who oppose Universal Military Training?"

"Let's get down to cases, boys. If UMT is such an 'important' project for the defense of America — which we don't think it is — let's get on with the vote. Let's stop trying to fool the people with ludicrous charges that Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N. Y.) is holding things up because he is opposed to racial segregation."

"It's not Powell who's holding things up — and you know this perfectly well. Seems to us it's a simple issue of right and wrong. And the people who are wrong are the Dixiecrats — as usual. They want to continue segregation in the National Guard. The President says racial segregation is wrong. The Declaration of Independence says it's wrong. The Constitution of the United States says it's wrong. The Supreme Court says it's wrong. And Powell is simply agreeing. So who's responsible for the 'stall'? You guessed the answer. It's the Dixiecrats. They won't support UMT unless they can make the rules. And their rules call for continuation of segregation."

"So, we get highly annoyed when the so-called 'impartial' Washington newspapermen write that it's Powell 'whose anti-segregation amendment bottled up the first bill' (in the House of Representatives). It isn't either. It's the Dixiecrats who bottled it up, and they intend to keep it bottled up unless everyone else in Congress and government will 'compromise' a basic moral principle."

"And right at this point, Mr. President, since you took time out from more pleasant activities to write a letter to Powell castigating him for insisting that racial segregation in the armed forces is wrong, how about writing a similar letter to Rep. Carl 'The Admiral' Vinson (D-Ga.), chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. We'd suggest you tell Vinson off in the same terms you told Powell off. And we'd suggest that you tell Vinson that he and his Dixiecrat pals 'unbottle' your pet UMT legislation and let's get on with the vote. Maybe you ought to tell Vinson about the Supreme Court decision on racial segregation in the public schools. He probably hasn't heard about it. Or maybe he thinks if he ignores it, it will go away."

"... Are you afraid the people won't like the idea of their sons being regimented into military service for eight years? Are you afraid the people might remember that one of the principal reasons our forefathers came to America in the first place was to get away from universal military training? Are you afraid the people might be wise to the fact that the military brass hats want more and more power to dictate to free Americans?"

Old Age Pensions

By Roy Gale

"Dear Mrs. Blank:

"Our records show that your insurance policy now has a cash-in value of \$1,153.21. You also have a cemetery lot valued at \$50. Because your personal property now exceeds the \$1,200 limit we are forced to cut off your old age assistance."

The above coldly-worded letter was sent to an old age pensioner I know. She is over 70 years old and has no other form of income than the miserable dole handed out by the state in the name of old age assistance. But she does have an insurance policy, you see, which is worth a little over a thousand dollars and a cemetery lot. This is personal property, and, of course, old age assistance cannot be given to anyone with more than \$1,200 in personal property.

Queen Elizabeth, the first Queen Elizabeth, that is, (1533 to 1603) would understand that very well. She might be a bit puzzled about the allowance of \$1,200 in personal property. In her time anyone getting public assistance had to be dead broke. Now we have advanced to the point where an old person can have the magnificent sum of \$1,200 in personal property and still qualify for assistance. Other than that the requirements are just about the same as in the days of the first Queen Bess.

The propagandists for the "free enterprise" system are always willing and eager to tell of the high standard of living the

workers here are supposed to enjoy. But they are strangely silent about the joys of old age — especially when the aged are poor and need help.

"Billions for war" they cry. But peanuts for pensions! Our economy is supposed to be so strong and good, and the worker and his family so well off that only the wasters and improvident need any assistance in old age.

"What did you do with all that money you made during your working years? Did you spend it all on good times and pretty clothes? Didn't you save some for your old age? Why should the state take care of YOU?"

Why indeed? I happen to know that this old lady and her husband, who is now dead, were driven off their farm during the depression. Then came years of struggle just to keep body and soul together. Improvident, they say? How could they be improvident when they had just barely enough to live on, let alone "put away" anything for old age.

So now the old lady will have to cash in her insurance policy and live it up before she will qualify for any more old age assistance.

The richest country in the world can spend \$12 billion to develop an atom bomb, but it can't afford a few dollars a month to keep the wolf away from the door of the aged poor — especially when they have \$1,200 in "personal property."

Role of Paid Govt. Witnesses Raised In Bridges Trial

Roy Gale

SAN FRANCISCO, July 23 — The Government's civil suit to strip Harry Bridges, West Coast Longshore leader, of his citizenship ended here yesterday. After hearing the final pleas of defense and prosecuting attorneys, Federal Judge Louis E. Goodman announced he would hand down his verdict next Friday.

The defense was forced to cut its case short when Judge Goodman ruled as inadmissible, defense evidence showing that Bridges' conduct as head of the ILWU was incompatible with Communist Party membership. This evidence was the core of the defense case.

Defense Attorney Telford Taylor objected, saying he was confident that "in the final upshot" it cannot be held that a person accused of being a Communist cannot be allowed to show his conduct indicates he is not a Communist.

Judge Goodman brushed aside this defense objection. "Evidence that a person doesn't act like a member of the Communist Party is no proof that he isn't a member," he said. This adverse ruling lends weight to the whole witch-hunt atmosphere prevailing today. This theory convicts a person accused of being a "Communist" before any evidence is heard. If he admits membership he is "guilty" and if he denies membership he is still "guilty" because denial of membership is "no proof that he isn't a member."

The judge gave one ruling that might favor the defense.



HARRY BRIDGES

He got a stipulation from the Government that it was not trying to prove "affiliation" with the Party. It was recalled that Hugh Bryson, another waterfront union leader, was convicted of perjury when he denied membership and affiliation in the Communist Party. Bryson was convicted on the affiliation charge.

"Then the whole case must be resolved upon the issue of whether the respondent was or was not a member of the Communist Party prior to 1945," the Judge said.

PAID GOVT. WITNESSES

The defense might get some comfort from a judicial query. Judge Goodman wondered aloud about the amount of credence the court should give the testimony of ex-Communist witnesses. "Both sides seemed to have stayed away from this issue in their arguments," Judge Goodman observed. "I think it is something that might be given some consideration."

Defense Attorney Richard Gladstein quickly suggested, "If the U. S. Attorney will make a motion to strike the testimony of all witnesses who were former Communists, I'll second it and we can all go home."

Gladstein followed up by reminding the court of the "professional" status of the Government's ex-Communist witnesses. He likened them to Harvey Matusow, the Government's anti-Communist agent who later recanted.

Taylor made what the defense considers its strongest plea. He said, "A judgment for the respondent (Bridges) in this case will not in the deepest sense be a judgment against the Government or for Harry Bridges, or for or against anyone touched by this controversy. A judgment for the respondent will be a judgment that the law abides here; and that will be its own justification."

Taylor referred to standards used by the United States Supreme Court which require "clear, unequivocal and convincing evidence" that does not leave a "doubt" in the mind of the Government that the Government has not produced such evidence.

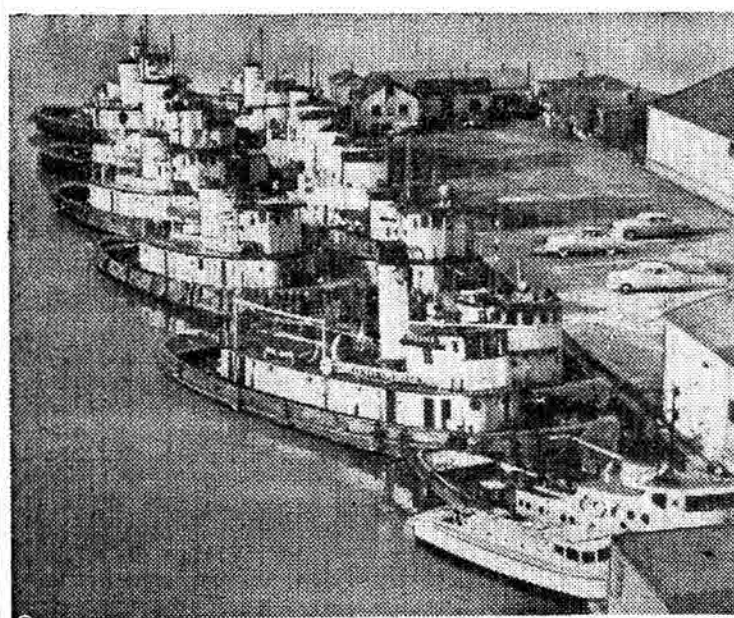
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Tug Strike Ties Up Baltimore



Tied up by a strike of 350 crewmen, these tugs lie idle at their dock in Baltimore. The men, members of the Intl. Longshoremen's Assn., struck for a wage increase after rejecting a 10c offer. The owners sued the union for \$1 million in damages and announced they would hire scabs to replace the strikers permanently.

BARBARIA GIVES RADIO TALK ON BIG 4 PARLEY

SAN FRANCISCO, July 20 — Frank Barbaria, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Mayor in the fall elections gave his views on the Big Four Geneva Conference, July 19, over Radio 2 Station KPFA-FM.

"In my opinion," he said, "the Geneva meeting will formalize some agreements being reached by other means. But the people will never learn what these agreements are simply by reading the statements emanating from the Conference."

Barbaria explained the counter-revolutionary role of the Stalinist bureaucracy in heading off the socialist revolution in Europe and Asia after the second world war. "Actually," he said, "the role of the Soviet caste was never in doubt."

He cited the betrayal of the Indo-Chinese struggle for independence as the most recent evidence of Stalinist efforts to maintain the status quo. Their desire for coexistence and a lessening of tension in the cold war led them to sell out the revolutionary strivings of the colonial masses.

"With full independence in sight for the Indo-Chinese," he said, "the Ho Chi Minh leadership made a deal with the French, helped divide the country in half and thus protected the financial interests of French capitalism and simultaneously, the interests of the Russian caste."

Barbaria explained why the Soviet bureaucracy is eager for a deal now. They remembered all too well the East German workers revolt in June 1953. They shudder at the thought of

REVISED TIMETABLE

Wall Street's willingness to meet at this time could only be explained by its revised timetable for war, he said. In spite of the ring of steel around the Soviet Union in the form of military bases, U. S. imperialism faces a number of serious obstacles in its drive toward a Third World War.

"The masses of Great Britain, Italy and France are in no mood for such a venture," Barbaria said, "and the plans to involve Japan and Germany are years behind schedule and give promise of never being achieved... and to say the least, there is a lack of enthusiasm for such a venture among the American people."

Sugar Strike in South Harassed by Courts

A vivid demonstration of government-by-injunction by the sugar barons of Reserve and Gramercy, Louisiana, against the refinery strikers was given in a contempt of

court citation against Interna-

tional President Ralph Holstein of the CIO Packinghouse Union.

Helstein's "contempt," and that of his administrative assistant and the UPWA Regional Director, consists of a two-day visit to the striking sugar locals, which have now been out for 14 weeks. If Judge Walter C. Hamlin of St. James Parish can lay his hands on the union leaders, he will give them a year in prison and \$1,000 fine.

Judge Hamlin directed attorneys for the anti-labor Colonial Sugar Co. to prepare contempt citations against Helstein and his colleagues, saying: "I want to find out if these Chicago people are fomenting this violence or fomenting these violations of a court order. If I find them guilty I'm going to give them the limit."

The strikes, which involve 1,500 workers and are an inspiring example of interracial solidarity, are for a ten-cent-an-hour increase which has already been won from two other Southern refineries. The 10-cent boost would cut the present North-South wage differential of 41 cents in the industry to 38 cents-an-hour. Both Colonial and Godchaux refineries are using thugs and scabs in an attempt to break the strike. Godchaux has publicly threatened to "repopulate" what was formerly the company town of Reserve but which is now a militant union town.

On the other Southern strike

UAW to Fight Political "Gag" In Michigan

DETROIT, July 23 — Fear of the specter of labor's political power has prompted moves by Republican Party leaders which resulted this week in an indictment against the UAW-CIO. The union was

charged with violation of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, which forbids political contributions by corporations, banks and labor unions.

The indictment charges that the union-sponsored television program, "Meet the UAW-CIO," moderated by Guy Nunn, was operated illegally during the 1954 campaign for U. S. Senator and members of Congress from Michigan. Several of the programs contained "political advocacy," according to the indictment, and their cost was paid for out of general union funds.

The indictment names the UAW-CIO as an entity, and does not name any individual leaders of the union. The maximum penalty is a \$5,000 dollar fine on each of four counts.

Here is the background of the case. Last year's election resulted in the defeat of Homer Ferguson, the strong Republican incumbent, by Patrick V. McNamara, the labor-supported Democratic nominee for U. S. Senator. McNamara was an obscure and weak candidate who won the nomination only because of the death of Blair Moody, the strong Democratic contender.

McNamara's election was due entirely to the support of the powerful Michigan labor movement, and particularly of the UAW-CIO. This election was dramatic proof that the union movement is potentially the most powerful political force in Michigan.

John Feikens, Michigan State Chairman of the GOP, filed charges with the Justice Department early this year asserting, among other things, that the union violated federal law by giving free radio and TV time to political candidates.

Republicans in Washington have pressed the case now in hope of settling the issue before the presidential election next year.

Emil Mazey, UAW Secretary-

Official of the UAW-CIO have announced that the case will be fought through the courts on the grounds that the section of the law under which the indictment was issued violates constitutional guarantees of free speech and a free press.

AUGUST SELECTION BOOK-A-MONTH PLAN

THE BENDING CROSS. A Biography of Eugene Victor Debs, by Ray Ginger. Rutgers University Press, 1949, 516 pp., \$5 (Book-A-Month price \$1.00 plus 15 cents mailing charge).

When this book first appeared the Militant review of it (Aug. 1, 1949) opened with the following paragraph:

"This is an excellent book, unquestionably the best ever written about Debs. The author evidently had only one axe to grind, and that was to present all the important facts in the Debs story as fairly as he could and as fully as his space permitted. When you finish it, you can feel with justification that you know what forces shaped Debs, why his ideas developed from pure and simple unionism through reformism to revolutionary socialism, what problems the revolutionary movement of his time had to contend with, what contributions he made to the struggle for socialism, what his legacy is for the present generation."

That this was no over-enthusiastic first impression is borne out by a re-reading of the book five years later. The original estimate was 100% correct. This is the best biography of Eugene Debs available. It is a book no worker or student interested in socialism or the American labor movement should be without.

The author succeeds in portraying Debs' full figure as a working class leader and as a man. This is very important because in today's corrupt atmosphere the open enemies of what Debs stood for have joined forces with the reformists and social democrats to emasculate his teachings.

They try to palm off on the American public a lifeless statue of Debs as just a man of good will, a reformer, a sentimental leader without any real brains. "All-honor to Debs," they say, "but he has no lessons to teach us now that aren't contained in the Sermon on the Mount." They imply that the imprisonment and vilification he suffered in his day was all a mistake and that such things wouldn't happen today to

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THEIR MORALS AND OURS

By Leon Trotsky 64 pages 25 cents

Pioneer Publishers 116 University Place New York 3, N. Y.

Notes from the News

SOMETHING NEW IN PICKET LINES is drawing the attention of people in the northern part of West Virginia. There the Monongahela Power Company buys non-union coal. The United Mine Workers can't legally picket the utility company. But retired miners, who draw \$100-a-month pensions from the UMW decided they could and would. Organized into a Miners' Pension Committee, independent of the UMW, ex-miners, from 60 to 80 years old, have set up picket lines before utility company offices and retail appliance stores. They carry placards and distribute leaflets explaining that with every ton of scab coal the Monongahela Power Co. robs the pension fund of 40 cents.

CIO OIL CHEMICAL AND ATOMIC WORKERS UNION has joined the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in a lawsuit against its own CIO Oil Local 434. The NAACP's legal action is part of an important assault on Jim-Crow hiring practices of four big oil companies, which hold government contracts supposedly barring employment discrimination under a Presidential Executive Order. In addition to the oil corporations, several AFL, independent and the above-mentioned CIO local are accused by the NAACP of collusion in the Jim Crow practices.

LIP SERVICE AGAINST RACE PREJUDICE is the policy of American newspapers, most of which in the North have editorialized in the past few years against discrimination. A survey by the CIO American Newspaper Guild shows that out of some 80,000 workers staffing the 1,784 general daily newspapers and an additional 9,770 staffing general weekly newspapers in the U.S., there are only 21 Negroes employed in news and editorial work and none in advertising.

ANTI-KNISH CAMPAIGN. "On the same day that a knish-vendor at Coney Island was arrested, after a sensational chase in which onlookers belabored the pursuing cops, for vending without a license, a big meat-handling outfit in Michigan was found fit to continue peddling meat

because in that state a meat-processor has to be caught and convicted of adulteration three times in any given year before losing its license. This company had three court convictions, but only one under state law, so it stays in business. The knish-vendor is inside looking out." — Labor's Daily.

TOO MUCH BROCCOLI. Two 16-year-old West Virginia youths went to work on the Pennsylvania farm of Rep. Karl W. King (R-Pa.). They worked ten hours a day for 60 cents an hour. Meals consisting mostly of broccoli were taken out of their pay. The youths complained that the row of broccoli looked two miles long and when piled on their plates, looked two miles high.

LEGION ATTACKS WOMEN VOTERS LEAGUE. The Un-Americanism committee of the plush Westchester County, N. Y., American Legion aimed its fire last week at the League of Women Voters for issuing a series of six pamphlets being used in a nation-wide series of discussions on civil liberties. The ex-doughboys charge that the pamphlets were "designed to delude the public into believing that communism is a red herring." A spokesman for the League declared the assertion "ridiculous."

ROBESON MAY TRAVEL — BUT... In line with its new "liberal look," the State Department announced July 18 that it was granting permission to singer Paul Robeson to travel to Canada as often as he likes. The noted Negro baritone, however, is still barred by the State Department from traveling to other neighboring areas where no passports are required of American visitors. The ruling covers Mexico, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the West Indies. A State Department press agent said "careful and prompt consideration" is being given to Robeson's long denied requests for an unrestricted passport.

MORE GOOD NEWS IN THE CIVIL LIBERTIES FIGHT was the death of a bill to revoke licenses of California business and professional persons who invoked the 5th Amendment.