

Protest Meetings Continue Over Till Lynching

Plan Big Rallies In Deep South; Witnesses Flee

By George Lavan

The fury of the Negro people over the lynching of 14-year-old Emmett Till continued to express itself in mass protest meetings throughout the country. In addition to their anger the audiences

everywhere expressed their desire for a program of action to combat the racist reign of terror now raging in Mississippi. No such program, however, was forthcoming from the Negro, labor or liberal leaders who addressed these meetings.

A large number of protest meetings in the South have been held or are being planned by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In New York City a second big mass meeting took place on Oct. 2 at the Lawton Auditorium on 125th St. The big theatre was packed beyond its 3,000 capacity, with people standing in the aisles of the orchestra and the two balconies, and outside on 124th St. where the speeches were broadcast by amplifiers.

Roy Wilkins, Executive-Secretary of the NAACP, read the audience clippings from Mississippi newspapers that "we know outside agitators like the NAACP will not be satisfied" with the outcome of the trial, but that "all reasonable men will be." One editorial ended: "The Till trial is over and the sooner we forget about it the better off everybody will be."

When Wilkins asked the audience if they would forget the Till case, a heartfelt "No" rolled through the auditorium.

Pointing out that the Till lynching was no isolated event but part of a "system," the NAACP head described the exploitation of the Negro people in the South and the terrible economic pressure employed to make them abandon the fight for school desegregation and the vote.

He told how in Yazoo city the White Citizens' Council took a full-page newspaper ad to print names and addresses of Negroes who signed a desegregation petition. He cited the case of a Negro storekeeper there, driven out by the economic boycott. His store could not get products of national companies. Wilkins named some of these products. Not that he was suggesting a counter-boycott because that wouldn't be nice, he said, but just to make the information available. If the audience didn't know what to do about it, "then shame on you."

Wilkins advised his hearers "to see your Democratic leaders and tell them you don't like what's going on in Mississippi. And if they don't like what you say maybe they can look somewhere else for their help. . . . And you Republicans, talk to your party, too. They control the Department of Justice."

While Wilkins' political advice reflected the Negro dissatisfaction (Continued on page 2)

Pointing Out the Lynchers



In dramatic defiance of Southern Jim-Crow code, 64-year-old Moses Wright rises from his chair in the courtroom at Sumner, Miss., and identifies the two white men, Roy Bryant and J. W. Milam, who kidnaped and killed his 14-year-old nephew, Emmett Louis Till.

Curran Admits Danger To NMU Hiring Hall

By James O'Hara

NEW YORK, Oct. 3 — The national convention of the CIO National Maritime Union opened this morning with some 500 delegates from ship and shore in attendance.

By outward appearance the convention is an impressive democratic gathering to discuss matters of great concern to the union. Actually, however, the close collaboration of union leaders with the shipowners and Coast Guard effectively guarantees that no seamen with militant or radical ideas can be around. The simple device used is to arbitrarily screen such workers out of the industry. Thousands have been screened out and this has intimidated the others. Opposition to the entrenched Curran leadership becomes thereby very circumspect and muffled.

NMU President Joe Curran's opening address to the convention took as its keynote the government's threat to the union hiring hall. He attacked the government-run hiring hall for longshoremen in the port of New York and linked the fight against it to the seamen's fight to maintain their rotary shipping union halls.

Curran's sympathies with the independent International Longshoremen's Association stem from the very real fear of the consequences of an AFL-controlled waterfront. Those who headed the AFL drive against the ILA made no secret of their enmity for the NMU.

In Curran's written report, which was read to the delegates as the major business on the convention's opening day, heavy criticism was leveled against the program of AFL seamen's leader, Harry Lundeberg, which calls for substantial concessions to shipowners in order "to meet foreign competition."

Curran pointed out that the course taken by the Sailors' Union of the Pacific under Lundeberg created a serious division in maritime labor which would enable the "shipowners to divide and conquer."

Curran, himself, put over earlier in the year a substantial retreat on the union hiring hall by giving in to the demand of the NLRB that the hall be opened to non-union seamen. In his written report to the convention, Curran denied that this retreat had weakened the NMU.

Vol. XIX — No. 41

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1955

PRICE: 10 Cents

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Morocco Independence War Erupts as French Flout Pact

Militant Widely Read at Till Protest Rallies

By Janet Nason

NEW YORK, Oct. 4 — Socialist Workers Party branches and locals throughout the country last week engaged in a series of actions in support of the many protest meetings and demonstrations against the brutal Mississippi lynch-murder of 14-year-old Emmett Louis Till and the flagrant acquittal of the lynchers by a Jim Crow jury.

EXTRA PRESS RUN

Members and supporters of the SWP throughout the country distributed the special issue of the Militant carrying the full story of the Mississippi "whistle murder" together with a program of action on how to combat the Jim Crow terror in the South. The special edition of the Militant was triple the regular press run and was all sold out within a few days of publication.

In New York, the SWP Local, using a sound truck, held a very successful street meeting in Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant district to protest the killing. Vincent Copeland, local SWP organizer, led a group of speakers who emphasized the importance of the organized labor movement taking the lead in ending the Jim Crow terror of the Southern white supremacists.

Approximately 3,000 copies of the special issue of The Militant were sold over the weekend by SWP members and friends in the Bedford-Stuyvesant and Harlem districts of New York. Fourteen hundred copies of the paper were sold at the protest meeting in Harlem Sunday held under the auspices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

OVERFLOW MEETINGS

Distributors of the Militant relate that some people bought as many as five copies of the paper to give to their friends and shopmates. All the meetings held in the area were jam-packed with people fighting mad over the Mississippi atrocity. Even the adverse weather couldn't keep them away. At an NAACP meeting in Brooklyn, held last Friday during a driving rain storm, a large crowd gathered to listen to the speakers and to express their determination that the fight will not end until the Negro people in this country have won full economic, political and social equality.

Reports from elsewhere in the country indicate that the response in other large cities was the same. As one of the SWP signs read: "Jim Crow Has Got To Go!"

By C. Thomas

The Militant received this week a press release statement from the office of CIO president Walter P. Reuther, deploring and protesting the horrible Mississippi lynch-murder of young Emmett Louis Till, and pledging that the "CIO and UAW-CIO shall do everything in their power" to "correct this gross miscarriage of justice."

DANGER TO LABOR

It would be absolutely consistent with the self-interest of the CIO to redeem that pledge promptly. The Militant has constantly pointed out that the open-shop, anti-union Southern Jim Crow system could not be maintained without such periodic atrocities as the Mississippi

Mississippi, U.S.A.



Anti-Union Vandals Smash Windows of 'Southerner' --

The fierce campaign of the textile bosses in Dalton, Georgia, against the Church of God, an actively pro-union religious sect, has erupted into open violence. In a midnight attack, vigilantes smashed the windows of the Church of God's newspaper, The Southerner.

Members of this religious group have been the spearhead of a drive to bring 10,000 chenille workers in 60 Dalton shops into the CIO Textile Workers Union of America. The Southerner has been an outspoken champion of the union cause.

The bosses, who undoubtedly have been waging their union-busting drive in the name of "God and Country," have brazenly trampled on the constitutional right of freedom of religion. Five hundred workers in

one plant were made to fill out "new" application forms which included the question, "What is your church affiliation?" Twenty-eight who answered "Church of God" were promptly thrown out of their jobs. Now two other plants have pulled the same stunt and 28 more workers admitting membership in the pro-labor church have been fired.

The steady drumfire of smear attack against the Church of God leaders emanating from the company-dominated Dalton News and Citizen has the vociferous support of all the "civic leaders" in town. The local posts of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars are solidly lined up in the anti-union drive.

Despite all intimidation, the chenille workers give every in-

dication of sticking it out until they get a union contract. The Church of God leaders also have refused to give ground. Church leader, Rev. Charles Pratt, says it would be heresy for any of his members to cross a picket line. "I teach people not to do anything against anyone," he says. "And I won't allow anyone in this church to take another man's job."

WITCH HUNT

Rev. Donald West, editor of The Southerner answered the "Communist" charge against him by pointing out: "The real issue is the organization of these chenille workers and the 75 cents an hour some of them are getting. They're attacking me to confuse the issue, and because they don't want the CIO in here."

More French Soldiers Protest Being Sent To North African War

By Carl Goodman

OCT. 3 — Civil war broke out again in Morocco and Algeria yesterday after the French Cabinet violated its agreement with the Moroccan nationalist movement to grant a measure of autonomy to the protectorate. At the same time more French troops protested against being sent to put down the people of North Africa.

French Walkout Sharpens UN Crisis on Algeria

By Myra Tanner

The struggle of the Algerian people for freedom won a moral victory when the United Nations' General Assembly, Sept. 29, voted 28 to 27 to put the question of Algeria on the agenda for debate. By this slim majority the Steering Committee of the General Assembly for the first time in its ten-year history was overruled on a major policy question.

This purely moral victory against the imperialist powers — no action is involved — occasioned a major crisis in the United Nations. The French delegation walked out in indignation. On Oct. 2 the French cabinet ordered a boycott of the General Assembly and postponed indefinitely an official visit to the Soviet Union, by Premier Faure and Foreign Minister Pinay, scheduled for Oct. 14. The fourteen African and Asian nations that pushed for consideration of the Algerian question by the Assembly pointed to the basic principles on which the United Nations is supposed to stand, chief among which is the right of self-determination.

U.S. OPPOSED IT

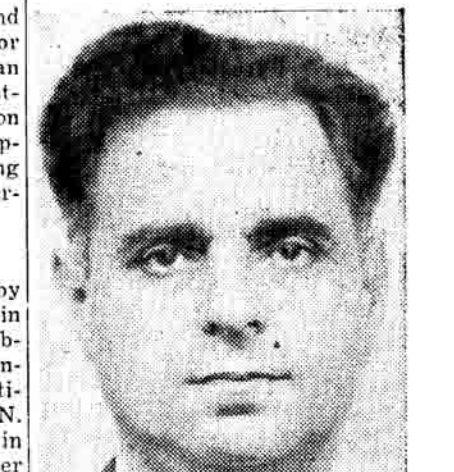
French imperialism backed by the United States and Britain counterposed the technical objection that Algeria is an integral part of France and Article 2, Section 7 of the U.N. charter prohibits intervention in the internal affairs of member nations.

Algeria covers an area in North Africa that is four times the size of France and has a population of nine million. Pressed by the independence struggle in this colony, France declared Algeria to be a part of the French nation in 1949. "Equal" representation was given to European and Moslem inhabitants. (Continued on page 2)

On Sept. 29, 300 young reservists recently called up for active duty gathered at the Saint Severin Church in Paris to voice their objection to service in the French African colonies where they are being called on to crush Arab national liberation movements. Several weeks ago, 400 air force reservists, shouting "Morocco for the Moroccans" refused to entrain for North Africa.

The steady build-up of U.S.-equipped French forces in Morocco and Algeria and their use to terrorize the Arab population has made it possible for the French cabinet to sabotage the limited reforms promised by the Faure Cabinet to the Moroccan people. The colonies are the wealthy French residents in North Africa, whose fortunes have been accumulated from the super-exploitation of Arab labor and wholesale plunder of the country.

The French Cabinet during the last months has been shuttling between the colonies and the Moroccan nationalist leaders. Last August, the Faure government worked out a "compromise" between them. On the one



AHMED BELAFREJ, Secretary-General of the Istiqlal (Independence) Party of French Morocco, who is in exile in Switzerland. Istiqlal denounced recent shift of Sultan's throne to new French puppet.

hand French Resident General Grandval was replaced by an outright stooge of the colonies, Lieutenant-General Boyer de la Tour. On the other hand, the Cabinet adopted Grandval's "reform" program.

"REFORM" MAZE

This plan called for the resignation of Sultan ben Moulay Arafa, a French puppet who was installed on the Moroccan throne two years ago, after the French had forcibly removed Sultan Mohammed ben Youssef because he favored the Istiqlal (Independence) Party. The throne would then remain vacant while a three-man Regency Council — one pro-French, one pro-nationalist and one "neutral" — approved by French imperialism, would take over.

This Regency Council would choose a Moroccan government representing "all parties," including Istiqlal, the principal nationalist organization. This government would then negotiate with the French government for some measure of autonomy within the "French" (Continued on page 4)

What the CIO Could Do in Till Case

"whistle murder." So long as the Southern Jim Crow system prevails it constitutes a deadly dagger poised at the heart of the organized labor movement.

The fact that so highly placed a labor leader as Walter Reuther has spoken out against the Mississippi outrage is good. The fact that the president of the CIO has committed that organization to act, is better. The press statement, which is very brief, reads as follows:

"The lynch slaying of 14-year-old Emmett Louis Till in Mississippi was a shocking instance of race prejudice and naked lawlessness."

"The trial which resulted in the acquittal of the men charged as his murderers makes a mockery of civil liberties and the judicial process."

"America cannot stand before

the bar of world opinion as a symbol of the fight of free men against Communist tyranny and at the same time condone this kind of violation of civil liberties and civilized social relationships."

"The handling of this trial and the verdict, in view of the evidence, is a threat to the democratic rights of all Americans."

"The CIO and the UAW-CIO shall do everything in their power to protest and correct this gross miscarriage of justice."

NO ACTION YET

So far as we know the CIO has not, as yet, taken any action to implement the Reuther statement. And it is action that counts — for the Negro people have had their fill of fine words

and promises. What could the CIO and UAW-CIO do if they did, not "everything in their power," but only some of the things they are capable of doing. They could for example:

1. Instead of leaving it to Congressmen Diggs to call a mass meeting in Detroit at a Negro church, the UAW-CIO could stage a monster protest demonstration in Cadillac Square which would reverberate throughout the entire nation.

2. In addition, the CIO could set aside a moment of mourning for the death of Emmett Till and the crucifixion of justice in Mississippi, in which all members of the CIO throughout the country would be called upon to stop work for one moment as an expression of protest.

3. If that didn't correct "this gross miscarriage of justice,"

the CIO could go a step further and call a one-day work stoppage on which day vast protest demonstrations could be organized in all the industrial centers of the country with effects that would be felt throughout the world.

4. Finally, as a minimum, Walter Reuther should call upon the CIO to break at once with the Democratic party, which is directly responsible for perpetuating the murderous Jim Crow system, and to spearhead the formation of an Independent Labor Party based on the trade unions.

AS A START

These are only some of the things the CIO can do. The list is not exhausted but it will do as a start. The Negro people are waiting for Reuther to act!

The American Way of Life

TV Tour of a Company Town

A company town in the tradition of American company towns was presented today on television. It had all the trappings that go to make up a company town: company-owned shacks for the workers, bum working conditions, low pay, and the most deep-seated of all — the open shop.

TV viewers in the San Francisco-Bay Area were treated to this show as a special concession. Local 770 of the Retail Clerks Union in Los Angeles has a weekly program to tell of happenings in the labor movement. Today it gave the story of the Sebastopol apple strike, now in its 48th day. Because the strike is in the Bay Area it was broadcast here as well as in Los Angeles.

The half-hour show used the personal interview technique to good advantage. Seven people told their stories. The stories were short and each made a different point. As one story followed another, the viewer became aware of the horrible working conditions and low pay suffered by the apple workers.

"IF YOU GET HURT"

Mrs. Davis told of working eight hours a day in the plants as a minor. When she became 18 she "graduated" to full time work — ten to twelve hours a day, six days a week, and her pay was raised to 90 cents an hour. She is married and has a year old child. She said that she was able to work because the woman who takes care of her baby has been blacklisted by the industry. The babysitter's crime was to get hurt. If you get hurt, Mrs. Davis said, you are fired and no other plant will hire you.

Two other ladies told of the terrific speed-up. They both ran peeling machines and said that 60 to 90 apples a minute — a minute mind you — were peeled by each machine. They described the work as highly skilled and very dangerous. The rapidly turning knives that whisk off the peels have no guards and the companies spend only a minimum on repairs. They said ten hours a day for six days a week was normal. For 60 hours a week they stand on wet floors in drafty canning sheds and feed the apples into the peeling ma-

chines — more than 36,000 apples a day.

A complaint voiced by another woman was that the machines frequently broke down. During repairs the women were required to stand by without pay until the machines were ready to work again.

Alan Hayes, a long-time apple worker, bared another vicious company-town practice. He told of renting his house from the boss. Hayes agreed to "fix up" the interior of the house when he moved in. He said that he had put in more than 200 hours of labor to make the house livable. This in addition to the 49 to 90 hours a week he puts in at the plant. His pay was higher than the women's but it was straight pay regardless of the hours. No pay for overtime work! When the strike started the company notified him of a steep hike in rent.

WORKERS' "HOMES"

During the interviews pictures of the apple workers' living conditions were shown. The announcer made a point that these were not some shacks furnished to migrant workers for a few days at harvest time but the permanent "homes" of the workers. (The apple canning season lasts some nine to ten months.)

The sanitary facilities these workers are forced to use are the famous "Chic Sales" out-houses, a familiar feature of rural America. But Sebastopol is a modern little town just 60 miles north of San Francisco.

So the portrait was drawn: miserable living conditions, low wages, long hours, the blacklist, the open shop and all that goes with it, and, of course, a reign of terror against the strikers. In the first days of the strike William Grami, teamster organizer, was kidnapped, tied to a telephone pole and brutally beaten with a bicycle chain. Here on TV was the traditional American company town.

— Roy Gale

OCTOBER SELECTION BOOK-A-MONTH PLAN

THE NEGRO GHETTO. By Robert C. Weaver. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., 1948, 404 pp., \$3.75 (October Book-a-Month price \$1.00 plus 15c. mailing charge).

In the over-optimistic days following the Supreme Court's May 17, 1954 decision against school segregation, a frequent statement by Negro leaders was that school segregation having been licked, the next target was housing segregation.

It is not the point of this review to go into the illusions that a Supreme Court order can by itself lick school segregation. What is pertinent is the key role of housing segregation in the oppression and exploitation of the Negro people. Much more than living conditions, important as they are, is involved. For unless housing segregation is smashed, Negroes cannot garner the fruits of other victories — even desegregated schools, when that battle is won.

For example, legal school segregation does not exist in Michigan. Yet I have before me a picture which has beneath it the following explanation: "This elementary school in Detroit is 100% Negro. Segregated housing conditions impose segregated education upon the pupils." It is the same in other Northern cities.

Most people in Northern cities

do not question the existence of enforced residential separation on the basis of color. That there should be a Negro section of their city, seems as natural and eternal to them as the "free enterprise" system or the facts of geography. Few are aware that this housing Jim Crow is relatively recent in the North or that such rigid residential separation of white and Negro is not characteristic even of Southern cities.

Like everything else, housing Jim Crow has its beginning, its flowering, and it is pleasant to say, its end. But right now we live in the day of its flowering. It is not a simple thing, as it might seem at first glance, and it deserves study so that its end may be brought about as soon as possible. That is the justification for this book, which is an extremely comprehensive, historical, economic and social history of the Negro ghettos of the North.

Any reader of this book, who lives in a middle-sized to major city, will find unexpected information about the home town's Jim Crow housing. He will be able to see the social pattern of his city change from the relatively easy-going days before World War I with the influx of Southern Negroes seeking industrial jobs during the war boom. Then the imposing of the ghetto and the friction and riots that competition for mere living space in a period of housing shortage engendered. The story is brought through the depression, World War II's great migration of Negroes to the North and West Coast and the post-war housing shortage.

The reader will find this book a mine of information about the economic currents in the Negro communities. For example, it shows how the ghetto has created a stratum of Negroes with a vested interest in its continuance. Author of a book on Negro labor, Weaver well explains the effects of class position and unionization on the subject.

Book - A - Month Plan

October Selection
The Negro Ghetto
The FACTS ABOUT
JIM CROW
HOUSING
By Robert Weaver
Published at \$3.75
Special October price

\$1.00
(plus 15c. mailing charge)
Payments must accompany order

PIONEER PUBLISHERS
116 University Place
New York 3, New York

Coast Guard -- Easy on Murder Hard on "Dangerous" Thoughts

By Henry Gitano

William Harvey, a Negro crew member of the Isbrandtsen line's vessel, Flying Trader, was murdered by the ship's master, Captain Frederick B. Weaver on Oct. 25, 1951. U. S. Coast Guard examiners have now closed the books on this brutal slaying by slapping the slayer's wrist with the announcement that his license will be revoked for one year.

The killing took place while the ship was in Chinese waters. On Oct. 25, 1951, the following cables were dispatched from Tokyo to the National Maritime Union, which has Isbrandtsen under contract: "W. Harvey, Negro utility man, shot to death by Master while unarmed and handcuffed in a hysterical condition. Crew highly incensed over unnecessary killing. Advise what course to take. — Radio Officer." "Brother Harvey, Book 28500, was needlessly and brutally murdered, while handcuffed, by Captain Weaver. Letter follows with particulars. — Ship's Crew."

One of the ship's licensed officers told the Pilot, the NMU's newspaper: "About 3 o'clock on the morning of Oct. 25, Harvey became hysterical and insisted on seeing the captain. . . . The captain and mate went below to the cook's quarters where Harvey was sitting quietly on a bench, and fell to beating him with blackjacks. Soon they clapped a pair of handcuffs on Harvey, but continued beating him with the blackjacks. The man thereupon became frantic and tried desperately to get away, knocking off the captain's glasses in the process."

"Immediately, the captain jumped up and ran up to his room to get a very small .25 calibre semi-automatic pistol. The mate left ostensibly to find a piece of rope. When they returned to the crew's deck, Harvey was wandering around the passageway in a dazed condition from the beating he had received, begging someone to take off his handcuffs. Then the shots were fired."

Pistol man Weaver, had been previously, in June 1950, condemned by an Isbrandtsen crew, as "brutal, capricious and completely unreasonable in his dealings with the men." At the Coast Guard hearing in Nov. 1951, evidence piled up that the captain was "trigger-happy" and on other occasions had behaved in a manner to cause the ship's officers to lock themselves in their rooms.

PREMEDITATED MURDER

Crew members testified the killing was "tantamount to premeditated murder," that the 190-pound captain and chief mate, were big and strong and obviously able to subdue young Harvey, who weighed 120 pounds, without resorting to his weapon other than their hands.

Instead the disturbed crew member was handcuffed and brutally beaten about the head with blackjacks wielded by the captain and first mate.

The captain, deliberately returned to dazed, helpless, handcuffed Harvey, and fired five feet. The Pilot of Jan. 24, 1952, reported that when Harvey was dead, his captain saw to it, that his feet were manacled, and to complete it, whiskey was forced down the massacred youth's throat.

Weaver's two murder trials in New York resulted in hung juries. The authorities refused to listen to the NMU's demand for another trial. The sadistic slaying aroused powerful indignation among seamen, particularly after attempts were made to quash criminal prosecution.

The Coast Guard ruled: "His (Weaver's) decision to . . . subordinate Harvey singlehandedly with a pistol . . . was below the standards of his duty as a master, and below the standard requisite to respect and discipline aboard merchant ships." It ordered suspension of the captain's license for a year, thereby closing the case.

DOUBLE STANDARD

The U. S. Coast Guard screens all maritime workers and refuses the necessary legal papers and thereby employment to any seamen, longshoremen, etc., it deems "subversive" or unsuitable. Thousands of waterfront workers who fight for decent working conditions, who struggle against Jim-Crow, who refuse to cringe and turn informer in the presence of thought-control cops, have been permanently deprived of their livelihoods by the Coast Guard.

On the other hand, the ship-owners' brass literally gets away with murder. Weaver can brutally blackjack, then kill, a handcuffed youth, and return to his command in a year's time.

Real Estate Bigots Overruled



Major Sammy Lee, Olympic diving champion and a U.S. Army doctor, moves into his new home in Garden Grove, Calif., with his wife Rosalind (left) and his mother. Two real estate dealers who refused the Lee family a home because of their Korean ancestry were overruled by the community.

...Protest Till Lynching

(Continued from page 1)

tion with both Big Business parties, it left the audience confused because no alternative was given. They were told to threaten to quit each party if it didn't act. Since it is very plain that neither party will really act, Wilkins' advice canceled itself out. There seemed to be no alternative because there was no

mention of independent political action by the Negro people and working for the creation of a new party, based on the Negro people and the labor movement.

Other speakers were Mrs. Ruby Hurley, who gave a detailed account of the situation in the South; Art Chapin of the New Jersey CIO, who told how his organization was circulating a petition to deny Mississippi its present representation in Congress since the Negro half of its population is denied the right to vote; and Shad Polier of the American Jewish Congress.

Polier said "fascism in its Southern form" was responsible for young Emmett Till's death. He drew a big round of applause when he declared he was "sick and tired of hearing American leaders say we should do this or that about Jim Crow so we won't lose the respect of the rest of the world" or furnish propaganda to the Soviets. We should end Jim Crow for "our own self-respect, because it's right," he said. (See Negro Struggle article, page four.)

Billie Holiday, famous singer, favored the meeting with a moving rendition of the anti-lynching song, "Strange Fruit."

MEETINGS IN SOUTH

Some of the Southern cities, where protest meetings have taken place are scheduled are: Birmingham, Montgomery, Mobile and Dothan, Alabama; Atlanta and Savannah, Georgia; Charleston, S. C.; Memphis, Nashville and Chattanooga, Tennessee; Miami and Tampa, Florida; Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas. In addition meetings are being planned for cities in the North and border states where none have yet been held.

At an overflow meeting in Dothan, Alabama, Hubert T. Delaney, Negro judge from New York and a NAACP board member, told his audience that despite atrocities like the Till lynching, "They cannot kill the indomitable spirit of freedom within you." He promised that the NAACP is "ready to protect teachers against whom reprisals are directed because of their membership in the NAACP."

FBI WATCHES NAACP

Labor's Daily, (Sept. 24) reporting "the biggest civil rights meeting in Cleveland history" added the following information: "The FBI, using this first appearance of Mrs. Bradley (Till's mother) as a 'test' of the Negro reaction nationally to the lynching, was present in force at the meeting. Cleveland's 'Subversive Squad' was represented by its head, Sgt. John Ungvary, and a carload of operatives." The surveillance of a NAACP

meeting by the FBI is not only sinister but ironical. The NAACP has vainly pressured Washington, after each racist murder or lynching in the South, for FBI investigations. Such investiga-

Verdict Protested



Mrs. Mamie Bradley, mother of Emmett Louis Till, who was lynched in Mississippi, gets into car after addressing overflow crowd of 15,000 in Harlem protest of Jim Crow terror.

tions have been refused, or when held have been merely token. As Dr. T. R. M. Howard, militant Negro leader in Mississippi, recently said: "It is getting to be a strange thing that the FBI can never find out who the killer is when a colored man is killed in the South."

The physical danger Negroes are in down South is dramatically highlighted by the Northward flight of the witnesses, who heroically staked their lives when they identified Roy Bryant and J. W. Milam as the men who kidnapped Emmett Till. Till's 64-year-old uncle, Moses Wright, has reached sanctuary in Chicago. A few hours after the trial was over, three carloads of white men arrived at Wright's cabin looking for him. Fortunately he had been warned and was hiding with his three young sons in the fields. After searching in vain, the night riders left. In his flight to safety Wright had to abandon all his possessions or hurriedly sell them for a few dollars.

Ohio NAACP Hears Account of Southern Terror

By Jack Wilson

YOUNGSTOWN, Sept. 25 — Over 1,000 people attended a mass meeting to protest the lynching of 14-year-old Emmett Till and the whitewash trial that followed. The meeting was called by the Conference of Ohio Branches of the NAACP, which concluded three days of sessions here today. Mrs. Ruby Hurley, NAACP Organizational Director for the Southeastern States, flew directly to the conference from Mississippi, where she attended the trial.

"Many of the people in the South," she said, "are living in virtual slavery." In order to keep the Negroes in ignorance, the rulers of Southern society "black-out" radio and TV programs that may bring information to those Negroes and whites "who may be interested in doing something about the terror." Newspapers also slant the news in such a way as "not to put the local authorities in any bad light."

REIGN OF TERROR

The White Citizens' Councils, operating "behind the Iron Curtain" that encloses a portion of the South, "prevent Negroes from registering to vote by 'murdering' some of the leaders who had the courage to get people to register. Negroes are disappearing every day, and nobody knows where they are." In one community where 400 registered to vote, all but 25 were terrorized into withdrawing their registration. This is the lynch-law atmosphere in which the trial of the suspected murderers of Emmett Till took place.

Of the 160 who were permitted to attend the trial, Mrs. Hurley stated, only 15 were Negroes. And since only registered voters can serve on the jury, Negroes are effectively barred from jury duty.

Jacob Clayman, Secretary-Treasurer of the Ohio State CIO Council appealed to the conference for aid in getting a CIO-sponsored initiative measure passed providing for increased unemployment compensation. As a result of his appeal, the Executive Board of the Ohio NAACP approved action to support the proposal.

HITS DEMOCRATS

Gloster Current, NAACP Director of Branches, roundly condemned the Northern liberal Democrats for their silence in the Till murder. He also denounced the Eisenhower Administration for failure to enforce the law in the South. He failed, however, to draw any political conclusion from his denunciation of both parties and did not indicate the need for building a labor party.

The School! Battle In Hoxie, Ark.

By Alice King

Back in July, Life magazine had a two-page picture and print story entitled "Integration At Work In Hoxie." Hoxie is a small town in northeast Arkansas. Its school board had desegregated the summer session of its school.

Readers of the Life article may well have thought to themselves that here was proof of the steady and painless march of integration resulting from the Supreme Court decision. But the road to integration even in Hoxie, which has only 26 Negro schoolchildren, is not automatic or painless.

Segregation is an expensive proposition in Hoxie as it is in many other places with small Negro populations in the South and border states. The inferior education provided for Negro children did not save the town money. On the contrary. The reason: there were too few Negro children. Jim Crow pay its dividends when employed on a mass basis.

The amount of money saved by integrating 26 Negro children with the town's approximately 1,000 white schoolchildren would just about cancel the school board's annual deficit.

This argument, more than any considerations of justice influenced the school board in its decision to integrate, beginning with the summer school. All went well for about two weeks.

LIFE COMES TO HOXIE

Then Life magazine reached Hoxie. Its effect was electric—the horrible insinuation that Hoxie was not just saving money, but favored equal educational rights for Negroes, stirred up a white-supremacist opposition in the town.

Literature from White America, National Citizens Protective Association, National Association for the Advancement of White People, Pro-America and other anti-Negro organizations flooded Hoxie.

Encouraged by this national support, the local racist leaders called a mass meeting at city hall to vote a school boycott. A third to a half of the white schoolchildren were kept home by their parents and a picket line of anti-integration adults was established.

Later the racists held another mass meeting at which Senator Eastland of Mississippi was bil-

led as a speaker. Eastland was unable to attend and the chief speaker was one Amos Guthridge, a lawyer from Little Rock and state chairman of the hate group, White America. The master of ceremonies was the Mayor of Hoxie.

INTIMIDATION

Guthridge set up headquarters in the town. His headquarters were in the city hall. A campaign of ostracism and threats was begun against the members of the school board.

On Aug. 17 the intimidated board met upon Guthridge's demand and was presented with the petition for its resignation signed by 1,063 (Hoxie population is 1,855). Under this pressure the school board, which had been left practically alone in the struggle—all the "better" elements of the town who supposedly favored integration showed their cowardice by clanking up-voted to end the summer school session.

The fight isn't over in Hoxie yet, but the racists have won the first round. Unless something is done they will win the fight. This would be a disastrous example for other towns in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas planning integration.

Cabell Phillips in the Sept. 25 N.Y. Times takes consolation from the fact that "impeccably discreet FBI agents" have visited Hoxie and are making inquiries. This hasn't stopped the racists who know as well as the Negro people do, that such FBI investigations are aimed to placate Northern opinion not to result in prosecutions.

There is a double-standard law on school desegregation. The Supreme Court says school segregation is unconstitutional but that it can go on till it has ended. Judges who are trigger-happy with anti-labor injunctions would never dream of issuing an injunction against such organizations as White America. They know, as does the whole South, that the Supreme Court may say that the Negro people have equal rights, but that doesn't mean right now or positively.

THE MILITANT ARMY

The New York branch is at the top this week in the speed with which it went to work with the issue of the militant, dated October 3rd. That issue was devoted to the protests against the acquittal of the murderers of young Emmett Till.

John Taber writes: "We sold nearly 3,000 Militants. Friday night we covered the protest meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Brooklyn. In spite of the fact that we had to stand out in the pouring rain we sold 240 papers. Saturday afternoon we organized both house-to-house and street sales, and in the evening sold papers at a street meeting held by the Socialist Workers Party."

"This one day netted us a sale of 1,260 papers and a six-month sub. On Sunday about 1,400 papers were sold at the Harlem Protest meeting run by the NAACP. We sold to about one out of every two people attending the meeting."

"A total of about 26 salespeople went out with papers. The following belong to the '300 or Better Club' — John Adams, Berta Woods, Priscilla Michaels, Janet Williams, Nate Weiss. It was a good feeling to see Militants being read by so many people."

Carl Feggans writes: "This is a quicky. I want to raise the Militant bundle to 65 starting with the October 3 issue." This is the third increase in less than that many months! Carl continues: "The NAACP is holding a mass meeting here in Los Angeles so be sure to send up plenty of extras."

Although the Twin Cities was absent from this column for a while it was busily at work reorganizing itself. Winifred Nelson writes: "Our newly organ-

ized literature department is just beginning its work. Included in our field of sales are campus gates as well as union and NAACP meetings. A strong effort will be made to rebuild the newsstand coverage. Along with these plans we will carry out periodic distributions in strategic places."

Meryl Waxberg sent us a few subs from Cleveland. "We got a wonderful reception at a street corner sale with the issue of September 12," she writes. "We sold 26 copies. The headline and cartoon were so powerful that it caught the attention of the passers-by. If you have any to spare, please send us as many as you can."

Statement of the Ownership, Management, and Circulation required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Acts of March 3, 1933, and July 2, 1940 (Title 49, United States Code, Section 235) of The Militant published weekly at New York, N.Y., for October 1955.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are: Publisher, The Militant Publishing Army, 116 University Place, New York 3; Editor, Murry Weiss, 116 University Place, New York 3; Managing Editor, Murry Weiss, 116 University Place, New York 3; Business Manager, Dorothy Johnson, 116 University Place, New York 3.

2. The owner is: owned by a corporation. Its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member, must be given. The Militant Publishing Army, 116 University Place, New York 3; Farrell Dabbs, 116 University Place, New York 3; Joseph Hansen, 116 University Place, New York 3.

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5. The average number of copies of this issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semi-weekly, and tri-weekly newspaper only.) 3,462.

Murry Weiss, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of September, 1955.

(Seal) (My commission expires March 30, 1956.)

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116 University Pl. N. Y. 3, N. Y.

CARNIG AJAMIAN

Argentine Labor After Peron's Fall

By Daniel Roberts

Although the aim of the property classes backing the Lonardi regime in Argentina is to curb or crush the unions, the government has been forced to walk gingerly up to now in its relations with the powerful General Confederation of Labor which claims six million members.

The military leaders who engineered the coup against Peron were dominated by fear of a workers' uprising as they marched into Buenos Aires to take over the government. This was revealed by Joseph Newman in the Sept. 23 N.Y. Herald Tribune.

"The insurgents," he said, "had defeated Peron in the military field, not by a test of arms but by winning over a majority of the commanding officers. . . . However, what could they do if Peron's labor federation staged an indefinite strike which paralyzed the economic life of the entire country? No one seems to have the answer and there continues to linger the deep-seated fear that the economic power of striking workers could still upset the military power of the Army and Navy."

CGT KEEPS LA PRENSA

The general strike feared by the military did not materialize, but Lonardi hurried to make concessions to organized labor. On Sept. 24, Hugo de Pietro, secretary general of the CGT announced that the new government had agreed that all social benefits and collective bargaining agreements would be honored and that the rights of the CGT and member unions would be respected. The government also

agreed not to return the newspaper La Prensa to its former owner, the Paz family.

In 1951 Peron confiscated La Prensa — voice of the big cattle ranchers and as such a bitter opponent of his regime — and turned the newspaper over to the CGT. This act produced a hue and cry in the U.S. Big Business press, which clamored for the return of the paper to the Paz family. La Prensa's confiscation was cited as Peron's most horrendous crime and it was confidently predicted in the U.S. press that with Peron's overthrow the newspaper would be restored to its former owner.

Even should La Prensa ultimately revert to the cattle-ranch oligarchy through court action, the Lonardi agreement to leave it with the CGT is a measure of how cautiously the new government must tread in its dealings with labor.

That the union-smashing intentions are there, however, and that labor's strength alone stays the government's hand is revealed by Lonardi's pledge to the CGT to review all steps taken in the provinces against various unions.

Evidently in the agricultural provinces, where the military coup was hatched, the Lonardi forces proceeded immediately against the unions, which are weaker there than in such industrial centers as Buenos Aires, Rosario, Santa Fe and Avellaneda. The Lonardi regime could carry through its real intentions in the provinces, where as it was forced to an agreement with the workers in the capital.

According to Joseph Newman in the Sept. 28 N.Y. Herald Tribune, the Lonardi regime bases itself on the army and the Catholic Church. "I am a soldier and a Catholic," Lonardi described himself in his first press interview. "The substitution of Catholicism for organized labor (labor was a prop of the Peron regime) can be seen in the character of the Lonardi cabinet," says Newman. "Virtually every member of the Cabinet. . . is a Catholic."

Ex-Dictator



Juan D. Peron

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It is true that a few posts in the new government have fallen to radicals (liberals) and Socialists in token recognition of their having opposed Peron. But these represent unorganized middle-class elements with no real political weight. They are in the government only for window dressing. Their presence does not alter essentially the undemo-

cratic and anti-labor character of the Lonardi regime.

What labor must prepare for was correctly set forth by an unnamed high official of the Mexican Federation of Labor in an interview printed in the Sept. 29 Labor's Daily. Pointing to the Catholic hierarchy's and U.S. imperialism's backing of the Lonardi government in Argentina, he warned: "Recent happenings do not mean peace, rather we expect new disorders and repressions inspired by Fascist (Franco-type fascist) elements."

One of Lonardi's first promises to the Argentine people on taking power was that the agreement negotiated between Peron and Standard Oil Co. of California would not be ratified. This agreement gave the corporation control over 20,000 square miles of Argentine land with virtual exemption from Argentine laws. The deal was so raw that it aroused strong nationalist feeling which Lonardi was anxious to appease.

U.S. IMPERIALISM GAINS

But his demagogic promise does not mean that Lonardi is going to fight against U.S. imperialism. On the contrary, he has already shown that he is pliable to the pressure of U.S. capital. On Oct. 1, Edward A. Morrow reported in the Oct. 1 N.Y. Times that the Argentine Central Bank placed forty-one large companies on an economic blacklist. These were companies in which capitalists closely associated with Peron were involved. These businessmen are going to be investigated for bribe-taking and favoritism in their dealings with foreign concerns.

"Financial circles believed that the current investigation would once again open the Argentine market to United States and British concerns that had refused to pay bribes to officials who could do important favors," says Morrow.

"United States automobile manufacturers had been effectively shut out of this market by European competition, which the deposed President had favored. . . . Similarly, United States manufacturers of tractors had refused to become interested in producing their products in Argentina because they believed their products would not be competitive as a result of local cost conditions."

These "local cost conditions" include (1) the enormous graft taken by the Peronist officials and (2) the social welfare and other concessions that the Peron regime made to the workers. Of these two items, the second is by far the more costly in the eyes of the Argentine capitalists and U.S. concerns, no matter how much they may also be concerned with the high cost of graft.

That is why the key of the Argentine political and economic crisis is the continued existence of the CGT, which survives the downfall of Peron intact. Hence the great danger of onslaughts against the labor movement.

To resist these effectively, workers will have to replace the corrupt Peronist officials with a revolutionary leadership. Such a leadership would know how to mobilize the full strength of the working class for defensive battles and then pass over to a struggle for a workers' and farmers' Argentina.

THE MILITANT

Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working People
THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION
116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y. Phone: AL 5-7400
Editor: MURRY WEISS
Business Manager: DOROTHY JOHNSON

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent The Militant's policies. These are expressed in its editorial.
Entered as second class matter March 7, 1944 at the Post Office at New York, N.Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Vol. XIX — No. 41

Monday, October 10, 1953

Egypt Arms

The American people can get a good idea of how the U.S. capitalists want to run the world in the crisis that erupted Sept. 29 over the announcement that Egypt had concluded an agreement with Czechoslovakia to obtain arms in exchange for Egyptian cotton and rice.

Egypt has been negotiating with the United States for arms purchases but didn't like the terms laid down by the Wall Street government. So when Egypt turned to the Soviet orbit to make its purchases, a splenic fury broke out in Washington.

George V. Allen, assistant Secretary of State was dispatched post haste to Cairo while the U.S. capitalist press hurled one threat after another at the Egyptian government. There was talk of cutting off economic aid to Egypt. There were shouts about an armament race in the Near East. There were ominous reports that the U.S. might support efforts for the overthrow of the Nasser regime in Egypt with the reminder of what happened to the attempt at independent action in Iran. The Mossadegh government was destroyed after it refused to come to terms with British and U.S. oil interests.

What is meant by the balance of arms in the Near East that the "great powers" claim has been upset? Primarily it is a question of the dominant armed might of imperialist nations, the U.S., Britain and France. The underdeveloped North African countries are sold enough to keep "law and order," that is, to maintain the position of wealth and privilege of the ruling class. But they will never be granted enough to "talk back" to the controlling imperialist powers.

The anti-imperialist sentiment of the oppressed people in North Africa has grown too strong for the old relations of colonial servility to the U.S.-European

powers. Bribes and threats are not enough to keep these countries in line.

The U.S. imperialists are accustomed to viewing economic aid as a purchase of allegiance from smaller nations. They are accustomed, if that doesn't do the trick, to threaten reprisals. And if that isn't enough, with rich experience in Latin American military coups, they are accustomed to arranging for the overthrow of a regime that tries to be independent.

But Allen had to beat a hasty diplomatic retreat on his arrival in Egypt. He met an angry response from the Egyptian government. Arab reporters demanded to know if the U.S. viewed Egypt as a sovereign nation.

Allen tried to disassociate U.S. policy from press accounts. He even went so far as to deny that his visit had anything to do with the arms question at all.

Egypt received the support of other small nations in the Asian-African bloc. India announced its readiness to supply Egypt with arms. The new foreign minister of Pakistan, Hamidul Huq Choudhury, voiced support for the Egypt arms deal. He charged that the "great powers" were using Israel to promote their own interests in North Africa, and pointed out that the Israel-Arab dispute could only be solved through a settlement of the Arab refugee problem. "This has to be done before the Arabs and Israelis can be reconciled to coexistence within the bounds of Arab aspirations," he said.

The Egyptian purchase of arms from the Soviet orbit, above all, disturbs the southern flank of the NATO nations in their offensive encirclement of the Soviet Union. The Arab nations are not and cannot be equal partners in this military alliance. The U.S. wants to use North Africa for its war plans. But it needs only subservient allies there.

Whose Side Is Quill On?

New Yorkers were treated last week to the sickening spectacle of a union "leader" joining hands with the bosses to slander and punish militant workers involved in a fight against speed-up.

Michael J. Quill, head of the Transport Workers Union, CIO, backed up the Transit Authority when it suspended 143 subway motormen on the Queens IND line for reporting "sick," in protest against a new speed-up schedule.

Charles L. Patterson, TA chairman, feeling arrogant, since he had the backing of the union chief, took a "get tough" line with the militant motormen. "We wouldn't let them come back," he said. "We've got to show them they can't get away with this stuff."

When 82 suspended motormen went to the union hall for assistance in their struggle, Quill's aides, in typical boss language, said the men had been misled by "leaders of irresponsible splinter groups." The union bureaucrats refused to help.

The biggest obstacle to the workers' control of the conditions under which they work is the labor bureaucracy. The wave of "wildcat" strikes in the auto industry last spring, also against speed-up, de-

veloped as a result of the same problems the transport workers confront.

Quill complains of splinter groups in the union. But the responsibility for the disintegrating process in the Transport Workers Union must be laid — not at the door of those who want decent working conditions — but at the feet of the labor bureaucrats who acquiesce to the bosses' plans to destroy union conditions.

In such cases as the above, the labor leaders are acting as the policing agents for the bosses. The overpowering of rank-and-file control by huge bureaucratic machines and long-term, no-strike contracts, has resulted in turning back to the bosses full authority over the conditions of labor. The power of the workers to protect themselves has been crippled.

The labor bureaucrats well deserve the contempt that rank-and-file union men and women feel for them. Today 143 militant subway workers are being punished for daring to fight for job conditions that the union should guarantee. It won't be long before the bureaucrats will stand in the punishment line when the rank-and-file succeed in building a well-organized and militant left wing.

James T. Farrell vs. Civil Liberties

James T. Farrell, the novelist has plunged into the current civil liberties struggle — on the side of reaction. On Sept. 16, three hundred and sixty prominent liberals struck a solid blow against the witch-hunt when they filed a "friend of the court" brief with the Supreme Court on behalf of the Communist Party and demanded that the court declare the Internal Security Act of 1950 invalid.

Farrell immediately rushed into print with a statement in the Sept. 18 New York Times branding this action as a "white-wash" of the Communist Party. He spoke on behalf of the American Committee for Cultural Freedom.

The liberals' brief took the position that the Bill of Rights must apply to all if it is to remain alive. It vigorously defended the right of the members of the Communist Party to free association and went to the notable length of championing their right of association with Communist parties abroad.

While the brief was seriously weakened by the false conception that the Communist party "plots revolution," and should be prosecuted on that score, it at least correctly understood that the Internal Security Act is not designed to halt "plots," but is aimed at the heart of the liberties of the American people. And it demonstrated that the 360 signers at least have the courage to stand up for an unpopular minority in the defense of freedom for all.

Farrell's stand is in sharp and disgraceful contrast to the one he so vigor-

ously attacks. It is all the more shameful in that Farrell once was a socialist. Today he puts forward the McCarthyite thesis that the danger confronting democracy in this country is that of the "Communist conspiracy." The powerful movement of the capitalist rulers of this nation to destroy the democratic rights of the people he chooses to completely ignore.

"If freedom were left in the hands of the (360) petitioners," Farrell declares, "it would have no future." And what if it were left in the hands of the present day James T. Farrells? The question is answered by Farrell himself in an article entitled "Reflections at Fifty" published in the Jan. 1954 issue of the social-democratic magazine, The New Leader.

"Approaching the age of fifty," he wrote, "my mood . . . is melancholy. . . . When I first began to write I was full of indignation because of the sorrows of this world. I was angry because of cruelty, because of the exploitation of some men and women by others . . . because of dirt, poverty, ignorance, aggressiveness, and the other things which ruin and sadden human lives. . . . It is not possible at fifty to feel the indignations of one's youth. My feelings are somewhat different today as I write. . . . Indignation has turned to a stoical feeling. I have come to see that pain and agony are part of the way it is in life."

For the pain and agony of exploited humanity Farrell feels stoicism. But he still has some indignation left in him. And that bit he reserves for those who continue to fight the battle he deserted.

By Robert Chester

A 24-hour general strike throughout the Mediterranean Island of Cyprus on Sept. 29 delivered another body blow to British rule. The island had the appearance of an armed camp as British troops tried to break up all groups of over five people, barricaded roads into principal cities and used clubs and tear gas against peaceful demonstrations of the islanders.

The main issue is whether Britain will allow this crown colony the right to self-determination. About 82% of the island's population is Greek while the other 18% is Turkish. Over the past years a rising movement for enosis (union with Greece) has developed until it is now the most powerful force in the colony.

British imperialism, however, is adamant against making any concessions. The wave of colonial independence movements has driven it into a prolonged strategic withdrawal. One by one, it was forced to relinquish its military and naval bases throughout the Middle East. After the Egyptian people compelled it to withdraw from the Suez Canal zone, Cyprus remained as the only fortified base left to British imperialism in the eastern Mediterranean area. It will not relinquish this without the bitterest of struggles.

BOTTLE BARRAGE

Anti-British sentiment has reached the white-heat stage. Banners and signs are put up

almost every night calling upon the British to leave. Wherever the troops go they meet the hostile looks, epithets or boos of the population. Commando troops run into barrages of stones, bottles and similar items as they approach a trouble zone. Arrests are frequent, but they only fan the flames.

The enosis movement is organized through the Greek Orthodox church with Archbishop Makarios at its head. Under it all sections of the Cypriot population are united. Makarios has sponsored the call for a plebiscite in which the Cypriots could vote for full autonomy and freedom to join Greece if they so wished. He has called upon the British-appointed members of town councils to resign, ending all connection between the British authorities and the communities.

To combat the independence movement the British government has used every vile learned in its vast experience in ruling colonies. Its offers of token self-rule have been rejected. Its time-worn "divide and rule" trick also failed miserably. Turkey, upon British prompting, laid claim to Cyprus on the basis of having ruled it until 1878 when British imperialism took it over. A conference, called to establish Turkey's "rights," broke up in sharp disagreement. Shortly afterwards anti-Greek riots took place in the Turkish cities of Istanbul and Izmir. Greece charged they were government inspired. Strained re-

lations between the two NATO countries have resulted.

MAILED FIST

The failure of achieving its ends through diplomatic trickery has led to a change in British policy toward the Cypriots. The former Governor, Sir Robert Armitage, has now been replaced by one of Britain's top military men, Field Marshal Sir John Harding, indicating that the mailed fist will now be bared. But the Cypriots are not intimidated. As ex-Governor Armitage departed, crowds formed to jeer him farewell.

British problems were further complicated when Greece proposed a debate in the UN Assembly on self-determination for Cyprus. Britain and Turkey, with the backing of the U.S., managed to defeat the proposal in the Security Council, but only at the expense of further antagonizing Greece. Fearing a rupture in the carefully constructed NATO alliance, Turkey, in response to an appeal from Secretary of State Dulles, is sending to Athens pacifying notes that it "wants to continue its friendship and alliance" with Greece.

But diplomatic maneuvers cannot counteract the power of the Cypriot masses, unified in their determination to win independence. Along with the wave of independence movements elsewhere in the colonial world, the movement for enosis promises to gain strength despite British attempts to crush it by military force.

Explosion in East Germany

THE EXPLOSION. By Rainer Hildebrandt. Duell Sloan and Pearce, 1955, 198 pp., \$3.75.

Readers of the Militant, which covered the great events of June 17, 1953 in East Germany so exhaustively, will find a treasure in this book by Rainer Hildebrandt. Though he is not a Marxist, Hildebrandt's work nevertheless repeatedly gives eye-witness confirmation to much that Marxists could "guess" from afar.

The book is a compilation of the experiences of ten participants in one of the most significant working class actions since the war, and, as each tells his tale, another fact of this enormously instructive event reveals itself.

One episode documents the agonizing refusal of U.S. officials, in control of the radio in West Berlin, to permit the broadcast of the general strike declaration in East Berlin, substituting for it a plea for discretion, patience and dependence upon top-level negotiations.

The slave laborers of Vorkuta in Arctic Russia were not the only Russians to appreciate the

significance of the East German uprising. "Another few weeks and the same thing will happen in Moscow," declared one young Soviet officer on occupation duty, who was executed later for showing sympathy to the revolution.

In a third episode, the manifesto of the Bitterfeld workers boldly proclaimed the proletarian character of the uprising, by demanding "the establishment of a provisional government made up of progressive working people."

But best of all is the addition of pieces to the still incomplete picture of events leading up to and precipitating the struggle. Apparently there had been a wave of strikes a week prior to the well-reported June 10 concessions to the workers. Whether or not these strikes were directly or wholly responsible for the concession, the retreat the latter represented on the part of the bureaucracy provoked a second strike wave.

"They write like that (Stalinist promises of improvements) because they're wobbly," was a general attitude of East German workers. Thus the Bitterfeld

struggle on the 17th of June centered about the freeing of a political prisoner, arrested after a successful strike action four days earlier! Indeed, so ripe was the situation, that apparently the struggle was initiated in some areas on the very same fateful day independently of knowledge of the events in Berlin.

The pages of "The Explosion," as they mirror the recent past, prophetically reveal a concrete image of the June 17's yet to come. Nor does the addition of a preface and epilogue, trying to connect the explosion that occurred in East Germany with U.S. imperialist aims, spoil the book. The meat of fact in between is too strong for such thin slices of bread.

— David Miller

Egypt

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The Negro Struggle

By Harry Ring

Red-Baiting Won't Lick Jim Crow

Shad Polier of the American Jewish Congress received a solid round of applause at the Oct. 2 Harlem NAACP rally, protesting the lynching of Emmett Till, when he declared, "I am sick of hearing American leaders say we should do this or that so we won't lose the respect of the rest of the world, particularly of Asia and Africa. We should do it [abolish Jim Crow] for our own self-respect, because it is right."

Mr. Polier's statement and the audience reaction to it is deserving of thoughtful attention by those leaders of the labor and Negro movements who seem to rely heavily on that particular argument each time there is a new assault on civil rights. Today, more than ever, the Negro people are seeking an effective way of fighting back against the lynchings. It does not help their cause to beloud the key question of precisely who it is that profits from Jim Crow atrocities.

Upon announcement of the verdict in the Till trial, Dr. Channing Tobias, chairman of the board of the NAACP, declared that the jurors should be awarded a medal by the Kremlin for their service to Communism. Would it not be far more accurate and meaningful to say that they should be given a medal by the Southern Bourbons whose economic and political tyranny rests directly on the maintenance of the Jim Crow system?

The argument that atrocities against the Negro people should be halted because they injure American "prestige" abroad has a

strong logical defect. It implies that if Jim Crow didn't impair U.S. foreign policy, which it unquestionably does, there would be no strong reason for eliminating it. But aside from that fact, the argument is a dangerous one because, regardless of intention, it actually strengthens the hands of the race-haters who also happen to be the most vocal champions of the "struggle against Communism."

For the capitalist rulers of America the "anti-Communist crusade" is a two-pronged weapon. It is a smokescreen for their drive to keep the colonial people enslaved. Movements of the Asian and African people for independence have been branded by the American propaganda machine as "Communist-inspired." At the same time it has proven itself to be an ominous instrument for intimidation and harassment at home of those who dare to speak up and fight for the rights of labor and the Negro people.

The Negro people cannot afford to be diverted from the real target in this crucial struggle. They have the whiplash of Jim Crow on their backs whether the international climate is one of "cold war" or of "co-existence." Their oppressors are right here and not in a foreign land. Their fight for freedom will be won here. At best it is a waste of breath to appeal for support to the fight against Jim Crow from those who hypocritically urge us to "fight tyranny" abroad while they nurse and profit from Jim Crow tyranny at home.

A Scabby Story

By Ben Haines

Sometimes it takes striking workers, particularly those who are on the picket line for the first time, a while to recognize that the cops, press, and capitalist politicians are lined up solidly on the bosses side. But there is one opponent they have no difficulty in recognizing — the scab.

Not only does the scab betray striking workers by attempting to cross their picket line, but he will stoop to the vilest tricks to curry favor with the boss.

Take the example of Charles Trajanowski who scabbed on UE Local 207's strike against the Landers, Frary & Clark Co. of New Britain, Connecticut.

According to the Aug. 22 Industrial Worker, "At least seven times the police had been informed that mysterious persons had attacked the Trajanowski home with fire-bombs and rocks through the windows. One time Mrs. Trajanowski even showed a bump on her head supposedly caused by a rock thrown through her window."

With great fanfare the struck company offered a \$500 reward for the apprehension of the "bombers," publicly implying that the UE strikers were guilty.

The New Britain police department, under pressure from the press and all "good citizens" to protect martyr Trajanowski from "strike violence," had two detectives secretly watch the house. They saw the lights go on after midnight and then heard glass breaking. This happened twice more the same night. After each performance the scabby couple called police headquarters and reported another attack by strikers. After attack No. 3, the detectives investigated and found the windows

had been broken from inside since the screens outside of them hadn't been penetrated.

The union suggested that the \$500 reward offered by the company for finding the guilty parties be paid to the police pension fund. But Landers, Frary and Clark Co. hastily announced that the time limit on its reward had run out.

This attempt to lay the ground for anti-labor injunctions and to influence public opinion against strikers, though on a small scale, is as old a trick that the bosses have. In the famous Lawrence Strike of 1912 planted dynamite bombs were traced — by accident — not to the strikers as intended but to an intimate friend of the company president.

Recently in East Tennessee a series of bombings and fires, connected with labor disputes and long attributed by the press to the unions, was solved. The guilty party was a business man — head of a trucking company. Naturally the press didn't see as much "news value" in this development of the story as it had earlier when it pointed the finger of guilt at labor.

At present the CIO Communications Workers in the South is in arbitration over 238 members who participated in the recent long, bitter strike. In addition to those fired by Southern Bell for "mass picketing," a number were discharged on "personal misconduct" charges ranging from "throwing eggs or tomatoes" at scabs, to damaging company property. How many of them are victims of the same sort of company frame-up that, on a million-to-one chance, happened to come to the light of day in New Britain, Conn.?

Notes from the News

"THE NAME AFL-CIO leaves the Communications Workers of America with a cold feeling," Joseph A. Beirne, CWA President said, "We would have preferred the name 'American Congress of Labor' or something similar." He made it clear, however, that he approves of everything else about the merger.

FAKE QUOTATIONS FROM LINCOLN will probably be going the rounds through the 1953 election campaign, says the newspaper Labor. It cites one credited to Lincoln. "You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift. You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong. You cannot help the wage-earner by pulling down the wage-payer. You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich." This phony quote was fabricated by a Rev. W. J. H. Boetcker some 25 years after Lincoln's death. It has been picked up by various pro-business publications and is carried in Standard and Poors, the reference book of Big Business. In the 1954 campaign Eisenhower's Postmaster General, Summerfield, used the "quote" and had to apologize when he was called on it.

THE FIFTH AMENDMENT was the subject of debate at Fordham University, Sept. 30. The negative team won on the question "Resolved: it is un-American to invoke the Fifth Amendment in respect to subversive activities." Dr. Joseph Maloney, instructor of political science, described it as the "hard core of philosophy which is the tradition of Western civilization." What would be more subversive or un-American," he asked, "than to deny a fundamental of American political philosophy?"

THE AFL-CIO MERGER will also merge the AFL Labor's League for Political Education with the CIO's Political Action Committee. The new organization will be called COPE, Committee on Political Education, and will potentially represent

15,000,000 workers and their families. The new organization, however will follow the old policy of supporting the Democrats, rather than move toward independent political action.

TAX CUTS became important in the strategy for the 1952 election campaign. Before Eisenhower fell ill some Republicans felt his appeal was strong enough to win without a tax cut, the Wall Street Journal comments. Now that a candidate with less vote appeal will be nominated, the Journal feels that a tax cut is likely. In prospect is a \$100 increase in personal exemptions to attract the working-class vote, while the big cuts are to be lower tax rates for the middle and higher income brackets as well as lighter levies on corporations.

HARVEY O'CONNOR, the author who refused to invoke the Fifth Amendment before the McCarthy Senate Investigations Subcommittee last July, but stood on his rights under the First Amendment, went on trial Oct. 4 for contempt of Congress. The trial is considered a test of the power of congressional investigators. O'Connor, who was called before the inquisitors because some of his books were in U.S. overseas libraries, took the position that "under the First Amendment to the Constitution, my writings, my books and my political opinions are of no legitimate concern of this committee."

CONGRESSMEN TRAVELING ABROAD do not have to publicly reveal their expense accounts, a United Press story of Sept. 25 reports. Senators' traveling expenses are submitted to the Senate Appropriations Committee which has kept them confidential. House Administration Committee Chairman Omar Burleson "held out the hope that the committee — which passes on the expense accounts of House members — may rip off the veil of secrecy."

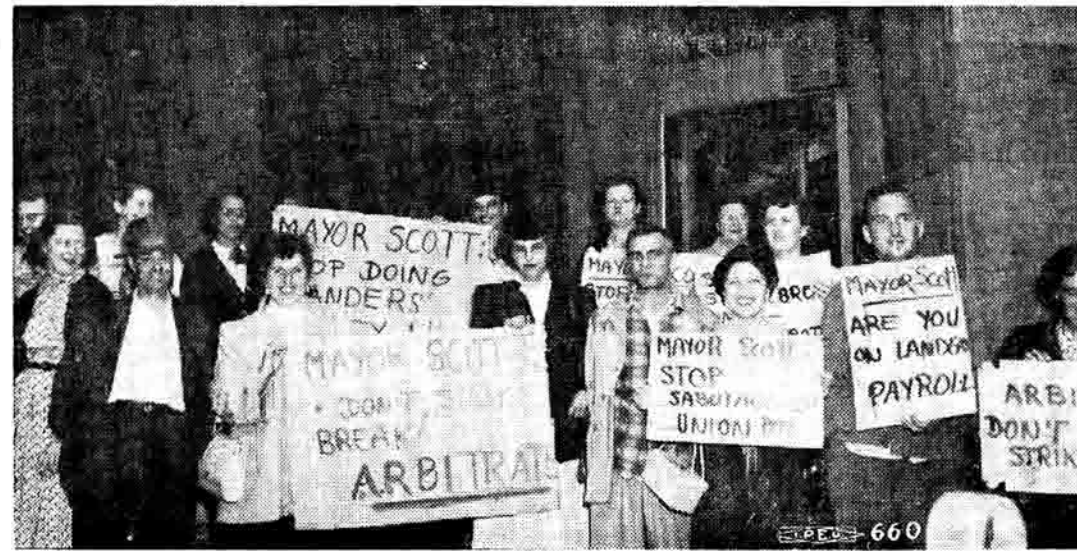
VOLUME XIX

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1955

NUMBER 41

THE MILITANT

Frame-up Against Them Failed



Pickets from Local 207 of the United Electrical Workers (Independent) in New Britain, Conn., shown above at City Hall protesting mayor's strikebreaking maneuvers. During their recent, long strike against Landers, Frary and Clark Co., "bombings," blamed by press and company on strikers, turned out to be work of strikebreaker. (For details see article on this page entitled "A Scabby Story.")

BILLINGS CHARGES SOBELL GOT SAME DEAL AS HE AND MOONEY

NEW YORK — A rally of 1,800 persons at Carnegie Hall on Sept. 29 gave a standing ovation to Warren K. Billings who traveled from his California home to add his voice to the demand for justice for Morton Sobell.

Sobell is serving a 30-year term in Alcatraz after being convicted in a witch-hunting trial on the charge of "conspiring to commit conspiracy," along with victimized Ethel and Julius Rosenberg.

Billings, who served 23 years in jail with Tom Mooney after they were framed up for militant union activity, charged that Sobell had received the same kind of treatment that he and Mooney had.

"Morton Sobell was placed in the same position as I was," Billings said. "The District Attorney told me that if I didn't testify against Tom Mooney, he would hang me too."

"BRAINWASHING"

"Today," he continued, "when they have more refined methods of brainwashing, they let Morton

Sobell know that if he didn't testify against the Rosenbergs, he would rot in Alcatraz. But Morton Sobell doesn't have anything to testify any more than I had anything to testify." Billings, who finally won his free-

dom after decades of protests on his behalf by organized labor, declared that it was up to the working people to fight for Sobell's freedom.

Senator William Langer (R-N.D.) told the rally that he would do all he could as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee to win justice for Sobell. The Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, which sponsored the meeting, has appealed to the Senate Sub-committee on Constitutional Rights, of which Langer is a member, to investigate the Rosenberg-Sobell case.

LANGER VICTIMIZED

Senator Langer was attacked by a number of newspapers for accepting an invitation to speak at the meeting. The following day the Federal Employees Veterans Association announced that they had withdrawn an invitation for Langer to be the keynote speaker at their convention in Boston. The national commander of the outfit said that Langer's appearance at the Sobell meeting made it "inadvisable" for him to speak to a group of federal employees.

Debs Centennial In November

The 100th anniversary of the birth of Eugene Victor Debs will be commemorated throughout the country by memorial meetings held by various socialist and labor organizations around the date on which Debs was born: November 5th. Special ceremonies are being planned to take place at Terre Haute, Indiana, the birthplace of the indomitable fighter for a socialist America.

The Militant, in its issue of November 7, will carry special articles on various aspects of Debs' life. The Debs anniversary falls just two days before the anniversary of the great Russian Revolution of 1917.

Our Readers Take the Floor

The Labor Leaders And the Till Case

Editor:

I am afraid a wrong impression was given by the last paragraph of Fred Hart's article on the Emmett Till case (Sept. 26 issue). Hart says "the labor movement is aroused and has demanded punishment of the lynchers." He reports that McDonald of the CIO steel union wired the governor of Mississippi demanding justice and that other unions have done the same.

But such steps are meaningless and worthless unless accompanied by action. They merely make the record and are used by the labor bureaucrats as a substitute for effective protest action. Instead of getting credit for putting their names to a telegram, the labor leaders should be condemned for doing nothing and subjected to pressure to start doing something about crimes that are just as much anti-labor as anti-Negro.

When Harry and Harriet Moore were murdered by a Jim Crow bomb on Christmas 1951, the NAACP called for a nation-wide 24-hour work-stoppage in protest against that atrocity. The CIO leaders, who then too were lavished with telegrams of protest, refused to cooperate, rejecting the proposal as not "responsible." But a nation-wide work stoppage would have been a thousand times more effective than all the telegrams in the world, and could have set into motion a protest movement that might have prevented the lynching of Emmett Till.

The labor movement permits its own throat to be cut when it fails to fight the Southern lynchings. Actions like a 24-hour work stoppage all over the country are measures of self-defense for labor, and indispensable if it is serious about unionizing the South. The labor bureaucrats should be put on the spot by demands that they organize such work-stoppages. The very least that must be demanded of them is the holding all over the country of mass meetings and demonstrations such as the AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters organized in New York.

George Breitman
Detroit, Mich.

[We agree completely with the writer of the above letter about

the ineffectiveness of the few telegrams and statements made by the labor leaders on the Till case. This may be seen from the front-page editorial that appeared in last week's Militant scolding the "timid and craven" leaders of American labor for their inaction on the Till lynching. Further evidence may be found on this issue's front page. Nor is there any doubt that a militant action by labor, such as a 24-hour general strike, would deal the white supremacist union-haters and their Northern allies a staggering blow. We regret that any readers may have inferred from the paragraph in the Sept. 26 Militant, referred to in the above letter, that the Militant in any way accepted as adequate or effective the action, or rather inaction, of the labor bureaucracy on the Till lynching. All that was intended was a mere reporting of the facts. — Ed.]

Salute to the SWP

Editor:

On the occasion of my first decade in the Socialist Workers Party, in this year of reaction 1955, I salute the Party I first joined in October 1945.

Much water has flowed under the bridge in these ten years. The tide is now perhaps at its lowest ebb but this can only be before the great flood tide. This I have been taught and this I believe for it is the essence of Marxism and Marxism is the truth of our times.

The Party is small in size now, but to me it is bigger than ever, for it towers above all other organizations in ideas and principles. It is a different kind of Party. I have the utmost confidence that some day, in the not too distant future, this quality will become transformed into quantity and we will truly be a Party of mass action.

Being a member of the Socialist Workers Party means fighting for a cause — the greatest cause in the history of humanity — the establishment of socialism. It means lifting up the downtrodden and oppressed; joining hands with the members of all races in the struggle against discrimination and prejudice; organizing the exploited working people with the objective of supplanting the

system of private profit with a system of production for use.

The Party embodies all the hope and yearning for a better world. It carries on the continuity of the historic struggle of the oppressed peoples against their oppressors; in modern society it is the struggle of the working class against the capitalist class — the last great class conflict, the resolution of which will usher in the classless society.

The Party gives more than it receives, for in return for some paltry dues and a little work it offers an unparalleled education, an insight and consciousness of life unobtainable anywhere else, and an opportunity to participate in the great work of leading the working class in the fulfillment of its historic mission of freeing mankind forever from class rule and class struggle.

On the tenth anniversary of my membership in the Socialist Workers Party I salute the Party. A Rank-and-Filer
New York City

News of Strikes; Lattimore's 'Job'

Editor:

I've noticed that you have made mention of the Bendix strike in Baltimore. It has come into the daily papers. The union involved, the International Association of Machinists (IAM), set forth its demands and management asserted that it asked more than was usual for the electrical industry. It seemed reasonable that Bendix would make some sort of counter-offer and that a settlement would soon be reached.

That hasn't happened. There may be more than meets the eye in the situation. The strike has now been on for a month. The IAM has set up a soup kitchen for their needy members, with the aid of the AFL. A faction of the union, in a hurry to get the strike finished, spoke of petitioning the membership against the present leaders. These people hired a hall, and the local newspaper hopefully called it a "back-to-work movement," a quaint term. Other members, of another opinion, got into the hall, and the meeting was called off. The latest news was that Ford Motor company reacquired tools used by Bendix. This was said to have cost the

Landy Victory Fails to Change Guilt-by-Kinship

By Shirley Clark

The famous blood-guilt case of Eugene W. Landy who was denied a Naval Reserve commission last August because his mother once belonged to the Communist Party, has finally been resolved. Secretary of Navy Charles S. Thomas reversed the decision of the special review board and decided on the basis of "commonsense" to give honor-student Landy his commission.

However the "commonsense" basis for the Navy Secretary's decision was not very common. Two navy boards plus the special review board had considered the case and decided Landy was a "security" risk because of his mother's one time political views.

None of the navy brass involved in the case questioned Landy's loyalty or qualifications for a commission. But the lad had obviously showed great indiscretion in the choice of his mother — or, granted that one doesn't choose a mother, Landy failed to dictate her social views.

Secretary Thomas said that he "could not ignore one of the fundamental principles on which our American way of life has been based and that is the opportunity of each individual to progress and succeed on his own merit."

But two navy boards ignored this "fundamental principle." The special review board appointed by Thomas ignored it too. And Thomas, himself, evidently forgot it when he studied the record which contained only praise for Landy. He had to check further with a "secret" trip to New York to interview Landy personally. In addition he had to consult Vice-President Nixon.

Landy is vindicated. This is good. But what about the procedure in the Navy that brought this crisis about? Will other youths have to undertake national publicity campaigns and months of legal dickerings just to get the right to be judged on individual merit?

In the meantime American civil liberties have received several serious blows from another di-

rection: the City of New York. The City has prepared a brief for the Supreme Court of the United States in which it contends that use of the Fifth Amendment "permits only two possible inferences": guilt or perjury.

New York City argues that it should have the same right to fire an employee that is exercised by private employers. It cites the fact that the N. Y. Times, "in the forefront of the defense of civil liberties," fired its copy writer, Melvin L. Barnett, for using the Fifth Amendment.

The City wants to fire Dr. Harry Slochower, a Brooklyn College associate professor who invoked the Fifth when a congressional committee asked him about Communist affiliations in 1940 or 1941. Dr. Slochower offered to answer any questions about later periods and said he was not a communist at the time of the inquiry. Still — the City wants to fire him.

The N. Y. Board of Education is also hammering away at civil liberties. It ordered a principal, three teachers and a teacher-clerk, who had admitted that they were ex-Communists, to be tried under the Feinberg law which bans members of "subversive" organizations from teaching.

The teachers charged that they have been double-crossed. They were promised that they could keep their jobs if they confessed their past political affiliations. The teachers complied. But they refused to inform on other teachers. Now admission of their own past political affiliations is being used against them in the first indictment under the notorious Feinberg law.

Three of the five educators are being indicted for making false affidavits when applying for their licenses. All five are indicted on the charge of refusing to inform.

workers the loss of about 400 jobs and the company a cost in the millions.

Crown Cork and Seal, a large company that has been many years in this city, has been open-shop, with the exception of the truck drivers. The Steelworkers (CIO) have been long trying to organize Crown Cork, but every time they would come to pass out union leaflets, the company gave the workers a raise. But Crown Cork has been laying off. The union organized from within and the CIO has won the NLRB election. There hasn't been any contract yet, though.

Owen Lattimore, the expert on Chinese affairs, who was victimized during the recent witch-hunt, has gotten his "job" back. As an advisor of Chiang Kai-shek for the American government, he saw the weaknesses of the regime. For his honesty he was held responsible for the fall of that regime.

He was director of the Walter

... Morocco

(Continued from page 1)

Union," the fancy name used to designate the French colonial empire.

But even this token and devious arrangement was denounced by the colon as too great a concession to the Arabs. They prevailed on puppet Sultan ben Arafa on leaving the throne to designate his cousin, ben Moulay Abdel Hafid, another stooge of French imperialism as Regent.

Premier Faure then capitulated to this coup of the colon. The French cabinet on Oct. 1 legitimized the powers of the new regent. The ministers called his assumption of government functions an "intermediary step" towards realizing the original compromise agreement.

Sick and tired of the whole swindle, Moroccan tribesmen resumed partisan warfare against French forces in the Atlas Mountains and violence flared up in Casablanca and Marrakesh. The cynical violation of the agreement also had immediate repercussions in Algeria, with Arab partisans in the Oran Mountains renewing attacks on French outposts.

Hines Page School of Foreign Relations of Johns Hopkins University, and held a lectureship at Hopkins. The college gave the impression that it would be fair, impartial and objective, but as the witch-hunt went on, Hopkins removed Dr. Lattimore's department from under him, switched it to the Geography Department, and suspended his lectureship while he was on trial by the government. Dr. Lattimore was one with-hunt victim who refused to "roll over and play dead." He wrote a book on the subject that sold quite a few copies, and he won the trial. A few days ago Johns Hopkins restored Dr. Lattimore to his lectureship. His stolen department was not restored.

I've heard Dr. Lattimore speak a couple of times many years ago. It was obvious he really had a grasp of the subject, but he never seemed to inject his opinions into the remarks he made. He didn't even sound like a liberal.

No doubt he considered himself "above politics," just another expert, little different from one who buried himself in research in chemistry or physics. That just goes to show you that in his meeting with politics, it didn't matter that he didn't recognize politics, as long as politics recognized him.

S. L.
Baltimore, Md.

Detroit Fri. Night Socialist Forum

resumes its regular weekly forum series

- The Political Biography Of Walter Reuther (From Socialist to Democrat) Friday, Oct. 14, at 8 P. M.

- The Strange Career Of Jim Crow Friday, Oct. 21 at 8 P. M.

- The Socialist Answer To Max Eastman Friday, Oct. 28, at 8 P. M.

- At 3000 Grand River, Rm. 207 Donation 25c. Free for Unemployed