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A Most Lively Demonstration

There was something for everyone at a Young Socialist Alliance demonstration in the city's finance district yesterday.

The protest against "suppression" by the French government of French students and their demonstrations was held in front of the office of the French Commercial Counselor, 400 Montgomery street.

It began at 11:30 a.m. and lasted for 45 minutes. One of the featured speakers was Peter Camejo, the Socialist party candidate for the U.S. Senate.

The demonstration included: A picket line, signs, red flags, hecklers, a few anarchists, 50 demonstrators, a short scuffle, disgruntled police, disgruntled businessmen, revolutionary songs, a small traffic jam, a ripped flag, a fair amount of cursing all around and the San Francisco Mime Troupe Gorilla Band.

Gordon Hall, a salesman for the Continental Can Co., was knocked down in a brief scuffle and wound up with a small cut on his hand and an egg on his head.

Hall said he was arguing with a demonstrator who answered with obscenities. "I told him not to use that language in front of ladies," Hall said.

"The next thing I knew, somebody hit me on the head and I went down. Then the cops jumped ME. They said they wanted to get me out of the crowd," he said.

Hall, of 871 West Hillsdale boulevard, San Mateo, decided not to file a complaint.

The young man who shouted at Hall was Stephen Schwartz, a self-described anarchist. "He (Hall) grabbed me, and I told him to let go.

"I decided I wasn't breaking the law, he was. So I was going to clobber him with my flagpole, but I didn't have room to raise it. Some-

body else hit him, I guess."

The mime band, dressed in costumes of fluttering, motley rags and assorted pots and feathers and blue jeans, tooted "Yankee Doodle" as the demonstrators marched back and forth in front of the counselors office.

Later the band played the "Internationale," and other revolutionary like tunes and the protesters sang. Police were hard pressed to keep traffic flowing.

In quieter moments, George Johnson, of the Young Socialist Alliance talked about the protest:

"We are the youth group of the Socialists Workers party and we are protesting suppression of students. The French government is allowing Fascists to operate while putting down the left.

Events in France indicate clearly that workers can make the revolution. We are the only inheritors of Leninism — we are not Commu-

nists in the sense you might think. The French Communist party, like the American Communist party, is trying to save capitalism.

Workers are still the revolutionary class."

Pat Williams of 930 Leavenworth street, a secretary, watched the demonstration from an eighth-floor window of the building under siege by the young Socialists:

"How did it look from up there?" a reporter asked.

"Pretty small," she said.



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