

# Will It Be War or Peace - Who Decides?

An Editorial

Isn't it time the voice of the people was heard in our land on the question of war and peace?

Everybody except the people has had his say. The Senate investigators have listened for hundreds of hours to the brass hat militarists, the boss politicians and the whole crew of capitalist lackeys who are merely the puppets of the war mongers. They have filled volumes with their testimony — and what have they said?

They all say the same thing — war! But the people, the workers like you and your shopmates, and your neighbors, the housewife who talks to the woman down the street while shopping, the students, the GI and his girl friend — they don't want this war. You know this without the conclusive evidence of the poll takers who admit that the majority of the people are opposed to this war.

## Who Does the Fighting?

And who fights this war? Who dies on the battlefields? Who sweats in the factories? Who pays for the whole mess — if not the working people? Don't you think it's time they had their say?

In the first place the war in Korea was ordered by Truman without any authorization. Who gave him the right to dispose of the lives of our youth? In the second place, the Congress in the most spineless and cowardly manner permitted this brazen usurpation of authority. It's all too clear that the whole show is being run by that tiny percentage of the population, the big business imperialists.

## A Fundamental Right

The Militant has been saying for a long time that if the people have any rights this is the fundamental one — to decide the life and death question of war or peace. We don't believe that the capitalist "statesmen" are wiser than the people. On the contrary we think they are sold body and soul to the Wall St. money kings.

If you agree with us and you want to do something about it there is much that you can do. Join the fighting group of Militant Builders, get this paper to your friends and shopmates, fight with us to:

1. Stop the war now. Don't let it spread!
2. Withdraw all American troops from Korea!
3. Recognize the government of New China!
4. Let the American people vote on the issue of war and peace in a national referendum!

## Militant Campaigner

# N.Y. Builds Lead In Sub Contest

By Joseph Hansen, Business Manager

The New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party this week rolled up its highest weekly score so far in the Big League Militant Circulation and Sales Campaign. A total of 3,305 points put the New Yorkers well ahead of the Twin Cities, who were threatening last week to recover their earlier lead. (One point is scored for each paper sold; 26 points for a six-months subscription; 52 points for a one-year.)

Total subscriptions for the campaign now stand at 1,690; sales of single copies, 21,573.

Detroit, for the second week running, made an impressive showing, scoring 1,847 points and moving closer to the Twin Cities. Detroit started neck-and-neck with Los Angeles but at the present rate may double the Californians' score.

In the Konikow League, Boston moved into third place, pushing Philadelphia down to the fourth rung. Newark, scoring one of its best weeks, continued to hold second place.

In the Kujac League, Akron again forged ahead, cutting down Oakland's lead to a bare 16 points.

Among the national pace-setters, Ernie D. of Detroit moved up another notch to capture fourth position in the Coover League. And in the Konikow League, Belle of Boston challenged the lead of Emmett of Flint. As we observed last week, it's still anybody's guess who will win the grand prize in each league of a trip to New York and week's vacation, expenses paid.

New York's excellent showing this week will, we hope, set the pace for the last days of the campaign which closes July 1. Let's put the throttle down to the floor boards!

(More about campaign in "Militant Army" on page 2.)

# MILITANT BIG LEAGUE SCOREBOARD

Branch Scores		Individual Scores	
Coover League	Points	Coover League	Points
New York	16,120	Paul	Twin Cities 3,595
Twin Cities	13,407	Mary	Chicago 2,374
Detroit	11,078	Don	Buffalo 1,914
Chicago	7,248	Ernie D.	Detroit 1,781
Los Angeles	6,360	Pauline	Twin Cities 1,687
Buffalo	5,927	Winifred	Twin Cities 1,166
Seattle	3,928	John	Los Angeles 1,164
San Francisco	3,638	Harry	Twin Cities 1,097
Konikow League		Marie H.	New York 1,064
Flint	3,182	John R.	Detroit 989
Newark	1,833	Lucille	New York 958
Boston	1,690	Jean	Twin Cities 912
Philadelphia	1,546	Chuck	Detroit 794
Cleveland	1,108	Clara K.	Seattle 761
Youngstown	910	Ruth B.	Detroit 671
Milwaukee	776	Bill B.	Twin Cities 603
Kujac League		Artie	Detroit 598
Oakland	847	Myron	New York 591
Akron	831	Konikow League	
New Haven	382	Emmett	Flint 966
Pittsburgh	372	Belle	Boston 865
St. Louis	261	Bill	Flint 667
Allentown	195	Dotty	Newark 630
Toledo	156	Kujac League	
West Virginia	130	Frank K.	Oakland 603

Vol. XV - No. 26

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1951

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

Workers of the World, Unite!

# THE MILITANT

## 'Pay As You Go' Makes Labor Pay Costs of Capitalist War

## Free the Trenton Two! Truman Democrats, Douglas And Moody, Back Rent Steal; Labor Leaders Keep Silent

A shameful "compromise" by an all-white New Jersey jury in the Trenton Six case has condemned two innocent young men to imprisonment for life. Not because of any crime they committed but because they happen to be Negroes who were subjected by a brutal police and a ruthless prosecution to a frameup as flagrant as any committed in the South. The two victims found "guilty" on June 14 are: Collis English, 25-year old navy veteran suffering from malaria and a rheumatic heart, and Ralph Cooper.

Both have already spent three years in jail under the shadow of the electric chair along with the four others who were finally freed. Three times these six young Negroes were brought up before the "bar of justice." The first time all six were found guilty and sentenced to die. This conviction was reversed by the State Supreme Court as a "judgment tainted with error" and "against the plainest principles of justice." The second trial ended in a mistrial. Now the third and longest trial in New Jersey's court history resulted in the freeing of four and the sentencing of the two.

The entire case of the prosecution rested on alleged "confessions" extorted from five out of the six defendants. Each "confession" was so worded that a single one sufficed to hang all six defendants. Had these "confessions" been ruled out, the whole case would have automatically collapsed because the police had little or no other evidence to offer.

### FORCED CONFESSIONS.

It was irrefutably established by the defense that these "confessions" had been extorted by mental and physical torture, by



intimidation and grilling for four days and five nights, by the use of drugs and false promises. All but two of these "confessions" were thrown out by the presiding judge. The same judge ruled out a typewritten confession by Cooper, while allowing another — handwritten one — by the same defendant to stand although it was as much dictated by the police as all the others.

The police and the prosecution were also caught red-handed in faking evidence. Having failed to produce the "murder weapon" in the first trial, they corrected this oversight by introducing a bottle. It was identified though its markings by the foreman of the plant manufacturing these bottles as being part of a lot

which had not been cleared from the company warehouse before June, 1950. But the murder of the Trenton storekeeper took place some two years earlier, in January 1948!

To crown it all, the defendants against whom the police and the prosecution succeeded in making their "strongest" case were declared innocent, while English and Cooper were found guilty by the jury.

If there had not been tremendous public protest against the first verdict all six defendants would by now have been electrocuted, victims of police vengeance. Thanks to the intervention of labor, liberal and Negro organizations, four of the Trenton victims are now free men. This

shows what a determined and strong protest movement is capable of accomplishing. But the movement has not yet proved strong enough to force freedom for every one of the defendants.

The crying injustice of the case of the original Trenton Six has now been compounded by the case of the Trenton Two. No organization and individual seriously concerned with safeguarding civil rights, fighting against race prejudice and police brutality ought to rest so long as English and Cooper rot in jail. The case of the Trenton Two must be kept before the public eye. It must be given the widest publicity and support until English and Cooper are set free. All of us working together can do it!

Congress is moving up its heavy legislative artillery for a two-pronged offensive on the American people's standard of living. Democratic and Republican legislators

have joined forces at the nod of Big Business in moves to demolish price controls and rent ceilings and to invade wage-earners' incomes with the third income-tax boost since the start of the Korean war.

Truman's feeble and purely ritualistic appeal on June 14 for "strengthened" price and rent controls was promptly met in Congress with moves to eliminate scheduled price roll-backs on meat, clothing and a host of other commodities and to boost residential rents at least 20 percent. At the same time, the new tax bill is being pushed through the mill to raise withholding taxes another 12½ percent and to slap big sales (excise) taxes on hundreds of necessities.

### HALT ROLL-BACKS

While the meat packers and big cattle ranchers were holding back beef supplies in an attempt to force the American consumers to bow to the profiteers' price demands, the House and Senate Banking and Currency Committees have approved measures prohibiting price roll-backs on beef which the price control administration had ordered to take effect on Aug. 1 and Oct. 1.

It is generally conceded that failure of the meat-prices controls ordered by the Administration will undermine the whole price control program. This will give a new impetus to an inflation that Economic Stabilization Agency administrator Eric Johnston said on June 19 has added \$21 billion to consumers' living costs since January 1950. That's \$21 billion that have gone into profits.

### RENT HIKES

One of the biggest blows Congress is preparing to deal the workers is a 20 percent boost in rent ceilings — where such ceilings are still in effect. The Senate Banking committee, with a majority of Truman Democrats, approved this increase on June 15. Among those who voted to give this bonanza to the landlords and real estate corporations are Paul H. Douglas of Illinois and Blair Moody, newly appointed senator from Michigan.

These two senators are among

### Sky -- The Limit

Have you heard any talk, much less action, of freezing the salaries plus cash bonuses plus stock rake-offs of the big corporation executives? Chas. E. Wilson of GM heads these big shots with a total rake off last year of \$626,300; the low man on the long list is William S. Paley of CBS with a mere \$100,000. Here are a few of the others:

Albert Bradley (GM)	.....\$541,000
C. H. Greenwalt (duPont)	.....\$539,550
M. E. Coyle (GM)	.....\$526,100
H. C. Curtice (GM)	.....\$526,100
J. C. Dellinger	.....\$468,278

the so-called "fair deal" Democrats, hailed by the top CIO officials as "friends of labor." The drastic rent boost was supported by a majority of the Democrats on the committee, while the Republicans opposed the rent hike on the grounds that it was 17% lower than it should have been.

Thus, the United Labor Policy Committee is given notice by the leading Congressmen and Senators that its demands for "equality of sacrifice" will be ignored, and the "big business" domination of government policy will go unchecked.

### WINDOW DRESSING

In exchange for promises from the Democrats that they would hold back inflation, the labor leaders agreed to call off their walkout from all government posts, and return to serve in mobilization agencies.

But these promises, like Truman's 1948 election platform, are being betrayed.

These actions in the House and Senate serve warning on organized labor: Congress cannot be depended upon to protect the workers' living standards. Labor officials who serve on government boards, merely provide window dressing for the administration plan to unload the costs of war preparations on the back of the workers.

## JUNE 26 TRIAL SET IN CASE OF 'LEGLESS VET'

James Kutcher's appeal for reinstatement will be argued before the Federal Court in Washington, D. C., Tuesday, June 26. "The Case of the Legless Veteran" will be the last on the trial calendar before the District Court adjourns for the summer.

Kutcher's attorneys, Joseph L. Raub, Jr., and M. J. Myer, filed a motion for summary judgment June 13 asking the court to revoke Kutcher's discharge from the Newark Veterans Administration in the government loyalty

purge. Kutcher was the Purple Heart veteran who lost both legs in battle in Italy and was fired from his clerk's job in 1948 solely because of his membership in the Socialist Workers Party.

Kutcher contends he was illegally discharged because of his political views and affiliation and because the party to which he belongs was placed on the Attorney-General's "subversive" blacklist without notice or hearing. When the SWP protested the arbitrary designation as "subversive" and demanded a hearing, his request was denied.

As The Washington Post pointed out editorially: "Mr. Kutcher is the victim of a dual arbitrariness. The organization to which he belongs has been arbitrarily held to advocate what it denies advocating. And the advocacy imputed to the organization has been arbitrarily imputed to Mr. Kutcher through the mere fact of his membership — an assumption of guilt through association which the Supreme Court in the Schneiderman case denounced as invalid and repugnant to American law. As a result, Mr. Kutcher has been severely punished not only by the loss of his job and a blacklisting which may close all other avenues of employment to him but also by an official finding that he is 'disloyal' to the country in whose service he was grievously wounded."

### A KEY TEST

The Kutcher case is nationally recognized as a key test of the violations of democratic rights

(Continued on Page 4)

## This Is the Kind of Foreign Policy The American People Really Want

1. Stop the war now. Don't let it spread!
2. Withdraw all American troops from Korea!
3. Recognize the government of New China!
4. Let the American people vote on the issue of war and peace in a national referendum!

## Why Teen-agers Take to Dope

By Joseph Andrews

Between five and ten thousand teen-age youth are in the grip of the "white death" — dope addiction — in New York City. The wave of narcotic addiction among youth has swept to Philadelphia, Detroit, Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans, San Francisco, Washington and Baltimore, according to Harry J. Anslinger, U.S. Commissioner of Narcotics.

### THE REAL CRIMINAL

Who is to blame for this horrible epidemic? It is not the peddlers alone; it is not merely the lack of effective anti-narcotics police; it is not only the absence of hospital facilities for treatment of the tragic victims.

The decayed social system is the real criminal.

Professor Austin McCormick of the University of California, stated recently that the mounting

juvenile addiction rates were a sign of "social disintegration — failure to keep up with the problems of urban life." Youth, he stated, found itself unable to develop ethical concepts in an atmosphere of poverty, alcoholism and racial prejudice, and sought escape in narcotics.

Prof. McCormick omitted one of the greatest pressures upon the youth — militarism and war.

Congressman Howard H. Buffett, of Nebraska, stated May 2 "In America a young man at 18 loses his freedom. His life is at the disposal of the Government in Washington. Aside from forced military service overseas, our borders become a prison wall. He cannot leave this country as a permanent emigrant — to seek his freedom elsewhere."

### CAPITALIST FUTURE

All that capitalism holds in store for the youth is war, poverty, dictatorship, atomic

destruction; the adolescent who confronts his future sees only a blind alley.

The government, from Washington down to the local cop on the beat appears to the youth as an enemy — and he isn't wrong.

The schools seem institution for the spreading of hypocrisy; they teach about freedom, peace and democracy, but the world around them holds none of these ideals.

The business world to which the youth in the heyday of capitalism would normally aspire, offers little opportunity except to the sons of the rich; the scramble for profits, the cynical selfishness of the big corporations, revolts the teen-ager who enters adulthood hoping to live a decent, useful and meaningful life.

He has no chance to plan his future; he is already part of the arsenal of World War III, an instrument of the warlords, waiting to be picked up and tossed into the jaws of hell. Is it any wonder that the youth look for escape?

### A TRAGIC SYMBOL

Is it any wonder that the following description of teen-age addicts, reported in the June

Woman's Home Companion, is typical of tens of thousands of youth? — "... they were fine-looking clean-cut youngsters — until you looked at their arms. The tender skin below the elbow was scored with ugly dark purple streaks which followed the course of veins toward the wrist. These were the streaks of burned-out veins into which they had jabbed the needle so many times that the vascular walls themselves had collapsed and the veins had dried up. Some had kept frantically jabbing deeper, deeper, looking for new veins until they had made streaks all the way across the backs of their hands and down to the knuckles."

The dried-up veins of these youth — that is the symbol of capitalist society!

Only it is more than a symbol. It is horribly real. It is the greatest price the American people are paying for the continued domination of the outlived system of degenerated capitalism.



JAMES KUTCHER



Notebook of an Agitator

WHAT GOES ON HERE?

Having nothing else to do one day last week, and being in need of diversion, I abstracted myself from reality and took an imaginative journey into the realm of fantasy.

was issued primarily for the purpose of directing or giving direction to those of our people scattered all over the world who were in charge of what we might call propaganda?

Unprovoked U.S. Aggression in Korea

Most of us recall the fateful week of June 25, 1950, as a blur of events moving at dizzying speed. Within a few hours of the report that North Korean troops had crossed the South Korean border, Truman had dispatched U.S. planes and warships.

Payne points out, first of all, that Korea was divided by a secret deal between the western imperialists and the Kremlin at the Yalta conference.

shall respond" to the cries of "our brothers in distress" in the north. That same month Rhee imprisoned 13 members of the National Assembly of South Korea who protested against his threats to invade North Korea.

IMPERIALISM DEALT HEAVY BLOW AS IRAN TAKES OVER OIL INDUSTRY

By John G. Wright

The Iranian crisis reached a breaking point on June 20 when the Mossadegh government ordered the seizure of all properties of the former Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. in conformance with the nationalization law passed in March.

On the scene, Ambassador Grady. How grossly they have miscalculated has been demonstrated by the firm rejection of the British offer as "completely unacceptable" and Mossadegh's sweeping order to take over the oil industry.

sador Grady who declared that the U.S. was "100% behind" the British stand and found the British proposals "completely fair and acceptable under the scope of the nationalization law."

The Rhee government, Payne says, "had aroused the hatred and sullen resentment of the majority of the people; unfortunately it was this government which America was sworn to defend."

Which Way for the Youth of America?

By Joseph Hansen

While I was on tour recently, I missed hearing James P. Cannon speak on "American Youth and Foreign Policy" at a New York University student gathering.

youngful audience that there is an alternative to the gloomy perspective facing us if the capitalists continue to run the country.

for the socialist society of the free and equal. That is the way to secure peace and progress and a good life for all.

A SWINDLE In other words, exactly nothing would be changed, except the firm labels under which the British imperialists would operate.

That tragedy is, above all, the slaughter of millions of Koreans, the destruction of their whole country, by a brutal imperialist invasion carried out under the lying pretext of defending these same Koreans from an "unprovoked aggression."

BRITISH MARXISTS CALL ON LABOR TO SUPPORT THE IRANIAN PEOPLE

In a leading editorial in the June issue of their periodical, the Socialist Outlook, the British Left Socialists, the radical wing of the Labor Party, have called upon the British workers to repudiate the Atlee regime's "gunboat diplomacy" toward Iran and to support the Iranian people in the present crisis.

AT GUN POINT

Foreign Minister Morrison and his colleagues are now seeking the same type of "negotiations" at the point of guns.

SOVEREIGN RIGHT

"It is a decision," continues this editorial, "which should also have the support of every democrat — leave alone every socialist — throughout the world. For the Persians — like the British or any other people — have a sovereign right to dispose of their national wealth in any way that they, and they alone, see fit.

RHEE'S THREATS

Rhee himself, as quoted in the March 2, 1950 N. Y. Times, proclaimed that despite contrary advice by "friends from across the seas" not to attack the "foreign puppets" in North Korea, "we

THE MILITANT ARMY

That July 1 deadline is only a few days off! That means every spare hour between now and then counts as at no time in the campaign. The seasoned campaigners know this and that's why, instead of lagging, they are now spurring ahead as if each one had tapped fresh reserves.

LENIN'S IMPERIALISM For example, Hook contends along with Lewis Corey, James T. Farrell, Upton Sinclair and Norman Thomas, that American capitalism is not imperialistic and that its development "does not fulfill Lenin's theory of imperialism as the inevitable last stage of capitalism."

Your First Issue?

If this is the first time you have ever read The Militant, you now have an idea of the kind of newspaper we publish. It is a weekly that pulls no punches in fighting for socialism.

"The fact that the signature of the Persian government is to be found on the (1938) Oil Agree-

ment, alters nothing at all — because the Persian PEOPLE, the workers and the farmers, never did agree to this robbery. They weren't even consulted. The agreement was signed by a reactionary clique of feudalists whose leader is the Shah and — so strong was the opposition of the people — they needed the protection of British guns before daring to sign away their country's wealth to foreign capitalists."

Buffalo too, according to Literature Agent Charles Carlson, intends to finish among the leaders. "If we don't, the reason is not because we didn't try. The comrades are doing a marvelous job in their tireless efforts to sell The Militant to working people."



Subscriptions: \$1 per year! 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

German Labor Still Fighting For Equal Say

By Charles Hanley From our European comrades we have received supplementary information on the issue of co-determination in West Germany. They write us that the principle of co-determination (workers' voice in management) had already been accepted by a conference of union and management representatives in Maria-Leach one year ago.

The Stalinist Peace Program -- II Jingoos Into Pacifists

By James P. Cannon If your ears are still ringing from the boiler factory sound effects of the war shouts and screeches of the American Stalinists, which topped all others on the patriotic noise meter in World War II; if you don't hear so good anymore and can't pick up and distinguish new sounds as readily as you could before your ears got hurt — let me tip you off to something.

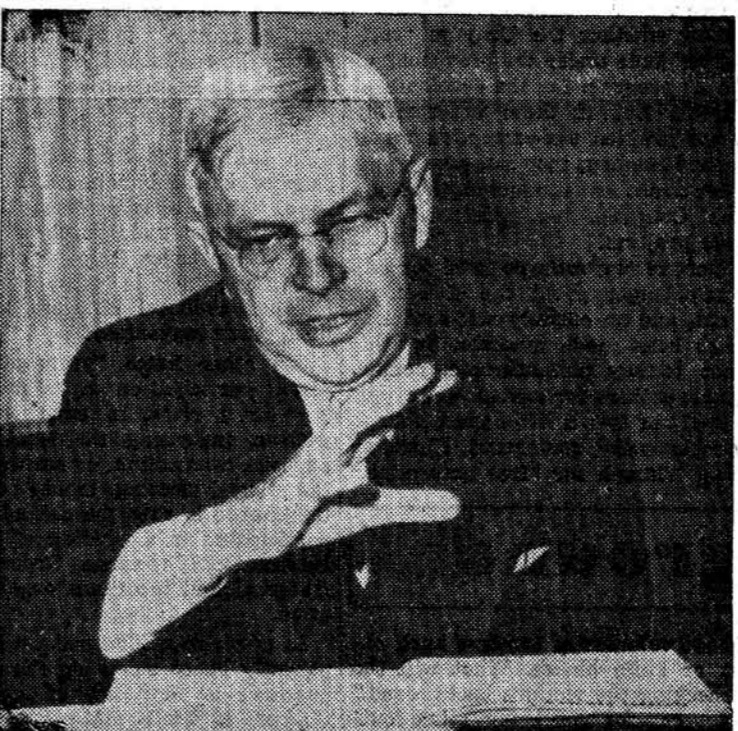
The Power of the Asian Peoples

One fact of the Korean war overshadows all others: Armies of backward Asian peasants have withstood the military might of world imperialism for a solid year. This is a world-shaking development that no explanation of imperialist statesmen and militarists can minimize.

U.S. Plans for Germany

In recent years, more than 3 1/2 billion dollars have been poured into Germany from the coffers of American imperialism. Everyone knows what this money is for. Every nickel of it is calculated to build a part of the vast international war machine of the Wall St. plutocracy.

Rich and Getting Richer



Charles E. Wilson, Pres. of General Motors, is doing all right for himself. Truman's "Equality of Sacrifice" program did not prevent him from raking in an income of \$625,300 in 1950, largest salary for any U.S. executive.

NATIONAL PEACE MOVEMENT

The campaign for "peace in general" is to lead up to electoral activities. Through the medium of an independent labor party perhaps? Just hold your horses. Hall calls for "peace tickets and peace candidates" on a local scale.

From Zionism to Marxism -- the Life of A. Leon

By Charles Hanley ("The Jewish Question, A Marxist Interpretation" by A. Leon, Introduction by E. Germain, Ediciones Pioneras, Mexico, D.F., 1950, 232 pp., \$1.00.) When A. Leon's book on the Jewish question was first published in France after World War II, socialist critics praised it as a masterpiece.

skyst weekly "La Lutte Ouvriere" whose editors then established contact with him. Thus he discovered the vanguard of the proletarian movement. WAR APPROACHES When war approached in 1930, Leon intervened at the Hashomer youth congress, coming out for "revolutionary defeatism" against conditional support of British Imperialism, despite angry shouts of the centrist assembly.

Liege it hoped to set up underground factory committees in the metallurgical plants. One day in the last year of Nazi occupation Leon was arrested by a German Military Police Patrol. A most unfortunate coincidence made them find his hiding place. He was tortured, but betrayed nothing.

For one year he served as chairman of the Belgian Zionist Youth Federation. But obliged to cooperate with the representatives of petty bourgeois and bourgeois Zionist organizations, he began to doubt. Did the theory of compatibility between Marxist Internationalism and Zionist nationalism (Borochovism—a theory formulated by Ber Borochov) hold good? MEETS TROTSKYIST Compelled to be on the move all over Belgium for his father's business when his family's living conditions were temporarily threatened with deterioration, Leon attended the meetings of Walter Dauge, the young Trotskyist leader whose popularity among the miners of the Borinage region rose very high during the big strikes of 1936.



# Truman on Casualties

By Fred Hart

The man who ordered the first use of atomic bombs on crowded civilian centers has again demonstrated his moral idiocy. Truman last week belittled the appalling number of U.S. casualties in his Korean "police action" and complained because this frightful and steadily mounting toll is "on the mind and tongue of every citizen."

Addressing the fifth annual Highway Safety conference on June 13, Truman departed from his prepared speech to attack those who speak of the war casualties. "The total casualties for the whole operation (U.S. intervention in Korea — Ed.) have been less than 80,000 and that includes everything — sickness, death in jeeps by accidents, killed on the front, captured on the front and wounded," Truman said. "That is on the mind and tongue of every citizen, but right here at home we kill and permanently injure 1,035,000 people (in highway accidents — Ed.) and there is no outcry by the sabotage press, no misstatement by columnists or the Congressional demagogues. And I wonder why?"

We will dwell but briefly on Truman's lie about there being only 80,000 casualties. It is sufficient to point out that Gen. Omar N. Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, testified May 24 before the Senate MacArthur Investigating Committee that U.S. casualties in Korea totaled 141,955 — and these figures were about three weeks behind the actual toll. Senator Bridges has put the figure at 175,000 and no one has contradicted him.

But in comparing the war casualties to auto casualties Truman lightly skips over certain significant facts. Even he will concede that the law takes a different view if you run over a child on the highway who darts unexpectedly in front of your car than if you deliberately chase a child with your car and run her down. In the first case, it is unintentional, an accident. In the second, it is deliberate murder.

Nobody is compelled by law to ride in automobiles. Everybody who drives or rides in a car or walks across a street — even Truman — takes

on himself the risk of accident. But the American boy who is forcibly drafted into the Army against his will, sent to the Korean front to fight a war he does not believe in and the American people don't believe in, is given no choice. His death is no accident. He is a victim of murder.

Moreover, as the saying goes, figures may not lie, but liars always figure. The rate of auto casualties in terms of the number of people riding cars or walking on highways is less than one per cent. The rate of casualties for the U.S. combat troops in Korea is around 40 per cent.

Truman neglected to speak about all the war casualties in Korea — the three million civilian dead, the 200,000 casualties among the South Korean and other UN troops, the millions of Chinese and North Korean casualties. These he dismisses as so much dirt not worthy of mention. If he is so morally blind to the slaughter of the youth of his own country, why should he care about colonial peasants and workers of another race?

It is quite true that there is a horrific toll in this country due to highway accidents. There are also hundreds of thousands who die each year of cancer, heart disease, TB and other killers who might be saved. And, in a way, all of them are victims of capitalist war.

With the hundreds of billions Truman is spending and preparing to spend to kill more millions in Korea and every place else in the world that U.S. imperialism aims to conquer, we could rebuild the whole highway system in America to relieve congestion and crowding and eliminate accidents. We could uncover the causes and cure of cancer, heart diseases and all the other maladies. We could eliminate bad housing and poverty.

Truman is no more indignant about traffic accidents than he is about the war casualties. He uses one to cover up the crime of the other. And if he has his way, we will have an atomic war in the not distant future which will make the highway and Korean war toll combined seem small by comparison.

# "Self Sustaining Paradise"

By Tom Conlan

We do not as a rule go out of our way to keep our readers informed about the latest capers of the ultra-snobish social set. But we feel obliged to make an exception. It has to do with society's most popular hosts of the year — not merely in the Western Hemisphere, mind you, but in the whole of the "Western world." This truly breathtaking item was made public the other day by the Scripps-Howard society editor whose business it is to record for posterity the doings and misdoings of the billionaire playboys and playgirls.

The current rage, it turns out, is none other than Mr. and Mrs. John Drayton. Up to last year Mr. Drayton's chief claim to fame, apart from his tidy bankroll, was his nickname — Satan. But last summer Satan Drayton became suddenly inspired "with the idea of creating a tropical, self-sustaining paradise at Andros, the most primitive island in the Bahamas," breathlessly reports the Scripps-Howard society editor, and immediately adds that "rich relatives and friends were almost unanimous in panning the project."

Last summer, you see, these carping "relatives and friends" did not take Korea in particular or the Hell-Bomb in general as seriously as Satan and his spouse. They kept guzzling cocktails, swapping gossip and rumours and otherwise leading their utterly useless and meaningless lives. But not Mr. and Mrs. Drayton. They saw a miraculous vision, and with this in mind they set out to accomplish miracles.

And lo! while the "pioneering" couple "lived on their yacht," the jungle was cleared for hundreds of acres by "machete-wielding natives," and there was erected on the beach "a dreamy guest house." The island has in addition been equipped

with fuel-oil tanks "for a fleet of yachts" and there is handy a refrigerated freighter and a deep-freeze boat.

The plantation itself has "enormous potentialities for castor bean, copra and sisal hemp production." But this barely scratches the full potentialities of this "primitive paradise." The list of eager house-guests, headed by the one-time skeptics, has grown so large that the gracious hosts could not possibly accommodate "100th of the people who want to drop in."

The popular hosts have solved this ticklish problem with rare initiative and even more exemplary tact. To accommodate the snowballing demand they are now "building a resort hotel." The yacht trade who "can pay for the privilege of sharing the Bahamas paradise" will be all the more appreciative. The hosts obviously know their customers, and vice versa.

We do not know whether the Drayton "self-sustaining paradise" falls under the provisions of Truman's "Point 4" program for the development of backward areas. But if these enterprising "pioneers" are not granted tax-exemption under the above-mentioned heading, they can surely seek to amortize their current investments on the same 5-year basis as Congress has granted other essential wartime projects.

In any case, there is obviously no need for any one to worry any longer about the Hell-Bomb threat. A way out, and an entirely self-sufficient way at that, has been made available by this enterprising, not to say philanthropic, couple. The island paradise is there for anyone — anyone, that is, with a yacht or two, a little spare change and with the proper social credentials. Chalk up another thumping triumph for "free enterprise."

# The Real Background

By Bernard Stanton

The N. Y. Daily Mirror reports the following dispatch under the headline: "7 Sparkplugs in Stomach, Going Gets Rough."

"Raleigh, N. C., June 16 (UP) — Hospital officials today reported they had removed seven sparkplugs, eight keys, a car wheel weight balance, an unfired .32 caliber bullet and part of a knife blade from the stomach of a 38-year-old Negro, Leon Burns, who is in critical condition at St. Agnes Hospital today following the operation. He told authorities he had been attacked two weeks ago by a mob in Georgia and forced to swallow the metal objects, but police doubted his story and were checking his background."

This dispatch is as much a commentary on the Mirror, one of Hearst's rags, as it is on "justice" in the deep South. The off-hand manner in which the Mirror headlines the story is revealing of its true attitude toward the Negro people. If a white man, say, a Southern gentleman, were involved, it would not take the same attitude. The story was printed on a back page sandwiched in between advertisements. The Mirror makes no comment beyond its flippant caption. Evidently, the story was worth the printing for a chuckle.

But why should one expect anything else from this large daily? Why should Hearst send one of his reporters down to the deep South to check the story, before printing it? We can hear the editor guffawing at the very thought.

The Mirror editors who thought up that screamingly funny caption, must have had a real laugh when they read the last line — "but police doubted his story and were checking his background."

The North Carolina police would, of course, never dream of checking on the mob which forced their victim to swallow the metal objects. The United Press, which sent out the dispatch, does not suggest it. Nor does the UP bother to explain

why a man should voluntarily swallow such objects as bullets or knife blades. What will the police find by checking the victim's background? Is the victim suspect? For not being killed outright? Will something be found in his background to convict him of some crime in case he recovers?

Any honest reporter would have investigated and reported the full story. Are mobs still operating unchecked against innocent and helpless Negroes? Are the police winking at and conniving with these mobs? Is the Ku Klux Klan still riding high? Here is a story to be written worthy of a great newspaper. But it's dynamite for the capitalist press. Its honest reporters are reserved for fiction and the movies.

They simply dismiss the matter by stating, "the police were checking his (the victim's) background." What inhuman mockery! The editors and writers have become so prostituted and degraded that they can print such tripe without batting an eye.

Each time an atrocity is committed against a Negro in this country, it is his "background" that is checked. The background of Leon Burns, like that of millions of other Negroes in the deep South and in the North is easy to establish. Economically — the most degraded section of the population. Politically, no representation. Socially, outcasts from the day they are born. That is Leon Burns' background.

After all the pious sentiments expressed in behalf of civil rights, democracy and freedom, by such "champions" of liberty as Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman, the Negro people continue to suffer from the most terrible oppressions. And the capitalist rulers of America, from Truman to Hearst, have no shame in asking the Leon Burnses and the John Derricks, and the Ferguson brothers, or the Trenton Six, to fight and die for "freedom and democracy" — as, say, in Korea.

# "I Have Returned from the Dead"

DETROIT, June 5 — Augusta Ford, 21-year-old Negro, was sentenced last September to serve 35 to 40 years in prison for rape and robbery. "I have returned from the dead," Ford said, when he was released last Monday, after serving nine months of his sentence.

Augusta Ford owes his freedom to his own efforts. While

serving his prison sentence he proved that on the night of the alleged attack May 31, 1950, he was in a Detroit jail on a minor misdemeanor charge.

Standing before Judge O. Z. Ide, and Prosecutor O'Brien, the same pair who had railroaded him, Ford bitterly denounced the frame-up justice of white-supremacy courts.

"I nearly went insane thinking about this. You offered false evidence to the jury. I was railroaded by the police and prosecutor's office so they could get a conviction. Thank God I was lucky enough to be in jail at the time, or no one would have ever believed me. I'm glad Michigan does not have capital punishment, or I probably would be dead."

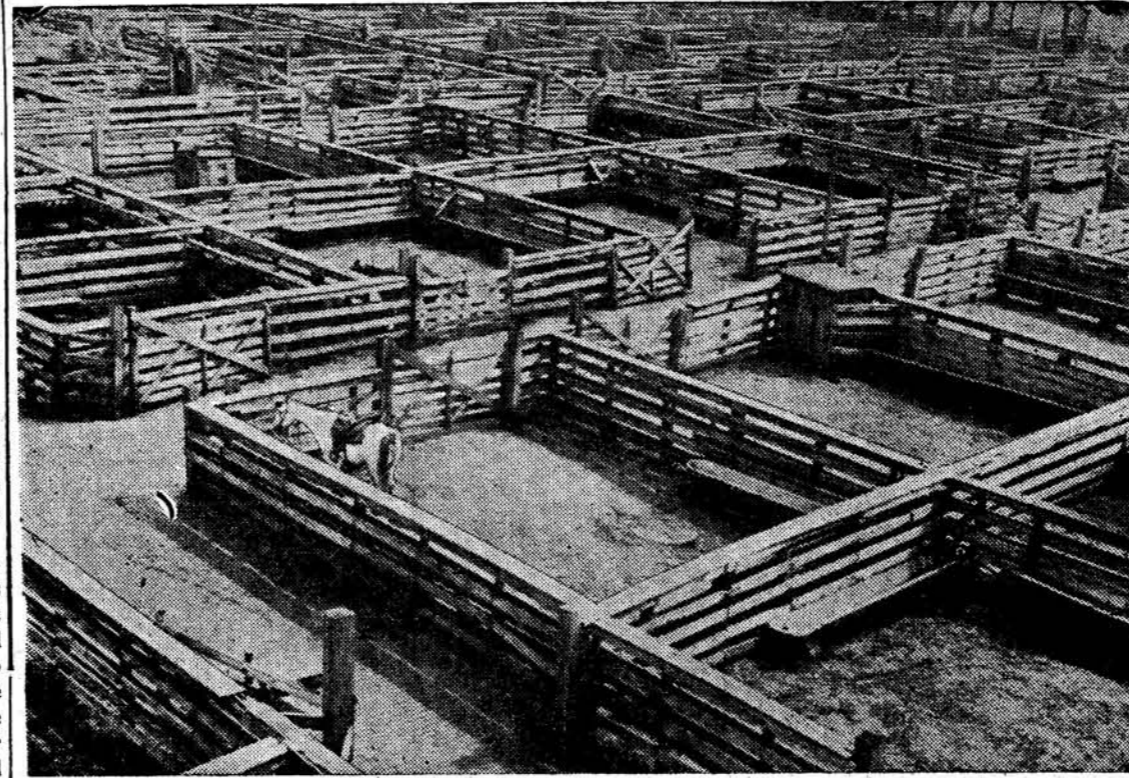
# THE MILITANT

VOLUME XV

MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1951

NUMBER 26

## Meat Trust Holds Out



The Big Four meat packers were withholding beef during the past few weeks, in an effort to push up the price of meat. As a result of their pressure, the Big Business controlled Congress cancelled further beef price rollbacks.

## NEW C.P. INDICTMENTS PERIL ALL CIVIL RIGHTS

NEW YORK, June 20 — Twenty-one leaders of the Communist Party were indicted here today by a Federal Grand Jury in a Justice Department move that signalises

the expansion of the witchhunt on a broad scale as a result of the Supreme Court decision upholding the constitutionality of the notorious Smith Gag Act. Seventeen early morning arrests were made in typically secret police style, while the remaining four are being sought.

The arrested 17 were arraigned on the strength of a fantastic indictment, which, by a brazen vagueness, indicates the contempt felt by the government for any serious process of law, and a feeling of arrogant confidence that under prevailing conditions any "anti-communist" indictments, no matter how slipshod or foolish, will be upheld in the courts.

"OVERT ACTS" In all, 29 "overt acts" are charged in the indictment. Fully 15 of these, simply allege that the defendant "did issue a directive and cause it to be circulated," adding in some cases "through Political Affairs" (Stalinist party magazine).

Six other listed "overt acts" allege participation in "a meeting" or a class, in most cases without indicating the location, purpose, composition or nature of the alleged meeting. In one case, the charge is that the defendant participated in a meeting of the International Workers Order, a fraternal and insurance organization.

In two cases, charges are apparently based solely on the appearance or activities of a defendant at 35 E. 12th St., the CP national headquarters building, which also contains a public bookstore. Other charges are: "did deliver a report at a meeting;" "taught at the Jefferson School;" became a section organizer, and "did write and cause to be published a pamphlet" without specifying the nature of the pamphlet.

EXPULSION CHARGED Two defendants are charged with having participated in the expulsion of Max Bedacht, former Stalinist leader. While this action can well be taken as a sample of the rigid bureaucratism which grips the Stalinist party, it is hard to imagine how it can be called an illegal action or a crime. Apparently the government is satisfied, as all counts of the indictment show, that even the flimsiest and most senseless

charges, as long as they are "anti-communist" charges, will see them through the courts.

The indictment was accompanied by the announcement that "hundreds" of further arrests are being prepared. This should open the eyes of some overly confident liberals who, while deploring the present witchhunt, have expressed the opinion that the Palmer "Red-Raid" of 30 years ago will not be repeated today. It is plain that the government has in view a far more sweeping and dangerous campaign than the persecutions of the early Twenties. Instead of a hasty, hysterical and ill-planned attack on civil rights, as took place then, what is contemplated today by "Palmer" McGrath is a methodical, ever-widening witchhunt exceeding in scope and viciousness the attack three decades ago.

Now that they have gone after two batches of CP leaders, it is clear that the government will not stop at this point. They have already planned to go after more. It is not out of sympathy for the Stalinists or support of their policies that these mass prosecutions ought to be opposed. If the CP can be virtually outlawed simply because of its views and expressions, other groups can be prosecuted in the same way under the same law. Indictments like those against the CP leaders can be used in the future against other critics of administration policy or of Big Business government.

The twenty-one indicted today include Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Claudia Jones, Alexander Bittel, Alexander Trachtenberg, V. J. Jerome, Al Lannon, Louis Weinstein, Arnold Johnson, Wm. Weinstein, Israel Amter, I. Bezun, and Simon Gerson. All arrests were made in New York, with the exception of that of A. Johnson, who was arrested in Pittsburgh. The United Press has indicated that future arrests are slated for Philadelphia, Chicago and San Francisco.

Art Preis Stricken, Is Operated On NEW YORK, June 21 — Art Preis, veteran militant reporter and outstanding revolutionary journalist, was stricken today and rushed to Beth Israel Hospital.

Comrade Preis suffered a perforated ulcer, which resulted in peritonitis. He was immediately operated upon.

Attending physicians report that Comrade Preis has an excellent chance of full recovery.

Comrade Preis' brilliant contributions to the columns of the Militant have been a favorite of readers for a period of ten years. His articles in the past few months on the Korean war, exposing the imperialist atrocities there, have been reprinted in the labor press all over the world.

## June 26 Trial Set in Case of "Legless Vet"

(Continued from Page 1)

arising from Truman's loyalty purge of government workers. Now his appeal has been given added importance by recent Supreme Court decisions on the loyalty program.

The Supreme Court ruled in the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee case that the Attorney General had no right to blacklist organizations without a prior hearing. Such a hearing was denied Kutcher's party. At the same time the justices by a 4 to 4 vote refused to review the discharges of Dorothy Bailey and of 29 postal employees also discharged in the loyalty purge.

Many authorities and newspapers have stressed the absurdity of the position in which the court now stands. In effect, the Supreme Court holds it is unconstitutional for the administration to blacklist an organization without a hearing and yet refuses to protect the civil and job rights of individuals victimized by such illegal procedures. Justice Jackson correctly stated: "This is justice turned bottom-side-up."

HANGS IN BALANCE As a consequence of these clearly inconsistent decisions the law regulating the entire loyalty program now hangs in the balance. The Kutcher case can become the vehicle for tipping it in a favorable direction. It is the only loyalty case now before the higher courts. It presents the basic issues involved in the clearest form. There is no dispute about the essential facts in the case. While the other victims of the purge did not admit membership in any of the proscribed organizations, Kutcher does and defends his right to belong to the party of his choice.

When his appeal is taken to the Supreme Court, as either side will do, the verdict rendered may well prove decisive in determining the constitutionality of the loyalty purge procedures.

That is why the American Civil Liberties Union is filing a brief as friend of the court in the case. The Kutcher Civil Rights Committee which is in charge of Kutcher's defense has issued an appeal for financial aid to pay for the expenses of the trial and the appeal to the highest court. Contributions for the legless veteran's defense should be sent to the Kutcher Civil Rights Committee, 19 West 10th St., N. Y. 11, N. Y.

## The Negro Struggle NAACP Program And the GIs

By J. Blake

Delegates to the annual conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People which meets the end of this month in Atlanta will undoubtedly agree that the most important single action of the organization this year was its defense of the Negro soldiers in Korea against the capitalist politicians and military brass.

The convention should recognize, first, the significance of the issue. The plight of the Negro soldiers is a broad popular issue which combines both opposition to the discriminatory frame-up courts-martial of Negro soldiers, and sympathy with the general distaste of soldiers and civilians alike for "operation slaughter" in Korea. The various charges of failure to obey orders, or refusal to advance in the face of the enemy were understood as descriptive of a widespread situation in Korea for which the Army chose to make Negroes the whipping boys. The courts-martial also focused attention on the complete lack of democracy in the Army which makes it possible for officers arbitrarily to single out those whom they wish to victimize, and to utilize all the totalitarian procedures of Army discipline to deprive them of even the formal democratic protection of civil rights of other American citizens.

The method employed by the NAACP in defense of the GIs was that of public investigation and exposure of the inhuman treatment of the soldiers and the injustice of the court martial procedure, the assigning of blame to the jim crow Army, and the public demand for redress.

The response to this method was an indication of the potential strength of the NAACP. Thousands packed public meetings to protest the condition, to express their support for the struggle against it, and to contribute to the campaign.

But as the Kansas City Call said when these meetings were at their height: "After the din of applause has died, then what?"

That question has to be answered by the NAACP convention.

## MacARTHUR AND DISCRIMINATION

Several alternatives are presented. The first, unfortunately, is already indicated in the line of those Negro leaders and newspapers which are attempting to use the plight of the Negro soldiers as a basis for petty political maneuvers on behalf of the Democrats or Republicans in the coming election campaign.

Negro Democratic party hacks are already soft-peddaling the responsibility of the Truman administration for maintaining the jim crow Army and the imperialist war in Korea. They, and this includes some of the NAACP top leaders, attempt to place all the blame on MacArthur by implying that his actions were contrary to the wishes of the Administration.

The Republicans, on the other hand, like the Pittsburgh Courier, are apologizing for MacArthur, attempting to picture him as a poor, misunderstood general who wouldn't stand for such a situation in the Army for a minute if he knew about it, and was the victim of bad Administration policies. All that is necessary to correct the situation, from this point of view, is to change the Administration policies or to give the commanding officer in the Far East more power.

Actually, the Republicans are right when they blame the Democrats and the Democrats are right when they blame the Republicans. But both lie when they say either one would eliminate jim crow or make the Army more democratic, or stop the whole imperialist slaughter.

The danger is that either faction among the Negro leaders may derail the struggle in defense of the Negro soldiers into petty political bickering.

## A PROGRAM OF ACTION

The real alternative for the NAACP convention is to reject both the Democrats and Republicans and to continue on the course that has put both on the defensive — a broad, mass campaign against Army jim crow. This means the following actions:

1. Place the blame where it properly belongs, on the capitalist ruling class and its political spokesmen both in the Army and in Washington and the several states.
2. Stop throttling the masses in their protest. Encourage the mass meetings, picketing and boycott of jim crow agencies of all kinds instead of limiting participation of the masses to donations for legal funds.
3. Broaden the campaign by appealing to every union for support on this issue. Labor is a natural and necessary ally in the struggle of the Negro people.
4. Solidarize with the colonial millions who want no American capitalist jim crow anywhere.
5. Make the NAACP the kind of democratic mass organization of struggle for complete equality for Negroes that can lead and inspire. The response to the organization's limited intervention on behalf of the Negro soldiers has already indicated, as it did in World Wars I and II, the possibilities of winning a mass base through proper issues and methods.

Both in the interest of the GIs and of the general advancement of the Negro people, the NAACP convention should stop the attempts to mislead the struggle into the old rat-race of Democratic-Republican politics. Anything else is a betrayal of those who look to the NAACP for leadership.

## "THE JEWISH QUESTION" A Marxist Interpretation

By A. Leon

Leon died in the Auschwitz gas chambers at the age of 26, but the book he left behind is one of the finest products of the underground resistance movement against the Nazis.

"Leon's approach is that of the orthodox Marxist. . . . His analysis. . . . is refreshingly lucid and sensible, and it offers us the opportunity to examine a solid statement of the materialistic interpretation of the Jewish question." — Oscar Handlin in the magazine Commentary.

ONLY \$1

(Also available in cloth, \$1.50)

PIONEER PUBLISHERS

116 University Place New York 3, N. Y.

## Mountain Spring's CHILDREN'S CAMP

JULY 1st — to — SEPTEMBER 2nd

For boys and girls between the ages of Six and Ten

Rates: \$30 per week—\$216 for whole season—9 weeks \$108 for four weeks

The capacity of the Children's Camp is limited so make reservations or write for information now.

MOUNTAIN SPRING CAMP

R. D. 1, Washington, N. J. Tel.: Washington 1352