

Popular Protest Forces Congress To Kill UMT Bill

By Harry Frankel

Enormous popular opposition forced the defeat of Universal Military Training by this session of Congress when the House of Representatives voted on March 4th to "recommit" H. R. 5904, the UMT bill. Sentiment throughout the country, flaring high against peacetime, permanent conscription, resulted in a great flood of mail and protest resolutions, virtually forcing Congress to abandon the plan.

So great was the protest wave that the vote in Congress was not even close, as had been predicted, but gave 236 votes against the Pentagon-sponsored UMT measure as compared with only 162 votes for it.

According to the New York Times of March 2, supporters of UMT are: "many newspapers, all the major veteran and military organizations and, of course, the Administration." However, "opponents of UMT include the major farm organizations, the AFL and CIO, spokesmen for several churches, some societies of educators and pacifist and left-wing groups."

Thus the UMT program is ad-

New York Parley Will Map Aid for Smith Act Victims

NEW YORK — A Citizens Emergency Defense Conference has been called here for March 16 to organize "a movement dedicated to the defense of the men and women now being prosecuted under the Smith Act and the consideration of the problems created by a new Alien and Sedition period."

The conference call, warning that "the rights of free speech, press and assembly, the very heart of the Bill of Rights, are in deadly peril today," notes that opposition to the Smith Act is rising, and adds:

"The growing campaign for repeal merits the widest support, but it must be accompanied by a powerful movement to unite people of varied opinions in defense of the constitutional rights of those now facing prosecution. . . . Such a movement requires taking no position on the political program of the defendants. It requires only a defense of their constitutional rights."

INITIATING SPONSORS

Conference sponsors include columnist L. F. Stone; Prof. Henry Pratt Fairchild; James Imbrie; Ben Gold of the Fur Workers; Clifford T. McAvoy of the United Electrical Workers; Prof. Robert Morss Lovett; Dr. Alphaeus W. Hunton.

The conference will begin at 1 P.M. on March 16 at the City Center, 135 West 55th St. A public session starting at 7:30 P.M. will hear and act on reports from the afternoon conference. The Citizens Emergency Defense Conference Provisional Committee has headquarters at 401 Broadway, Room 2219, New York.

Grand Jury Releases Four Involved in Cairo Bomb Case

By Albert Parker

The Alexander County grand jury, set up to investigate bomb violence against Negroes in Cairo, Ill., decided last week not to indict four men charged with throwing a bomb at a Negro's home. At the same time, the jury decided not to indict eight other persons who had been arrested solely because they demanded compliance with a state law banning segregation in the schools.

In the eyes of the grand jury, advocating enforcement of state laws and using force and violence against those who ask for the laws to be observed, are on the same plane, and neither should be punished. What could be fairer, more impartial and just than a grand jury that frees racist hoodlums and their victims alike?

NOT SO IMPARTIAL

However, the grand jury was not quite so impartial in the report it submitted after deciding not to make any indictments for attempts to intimidate Negroes into giving up their fight against school segregation.

About the hoodlums, its report had nothing to say. But about the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and its fight against segregation it had a good deal to say, and none of it good.

Referring first to "outside influence (that) has suddenly dis-

ruptured the safety and moral conditions of our school children," the grand jury denounced the NAACP representatives for showing "arrogance, abusiveness and utter lack of cooperation, which could have very easily led to violence and upheaval" and for trying "to usurp our school system."

The grand jury talks as if there had been no "violence and upheaval," although shots were fired into one Negro's home, another's was bombed, and dynamite was discovered in front of the shop of a third Negro. Anyhow, the grand jury implies, violence was the fault of the NAACP. If the NAACP had shown some "cooperation" with the hoodlums trying to preserve Jim Crow in the schools, there would not have been any violence — see?

UPHOLDS RACISTS

Furthermore, the grand jury said, the school officials should be permitted to "interpret the law" prohibiting segregation as they see fit. And anyhow: "We have not found any evidence of segregation practiced in our public school system."

In the light of this report, the only surprising thing is that the grand jury failed to ask for medals to be awarded to the local KKK hoodlums for their fight against "outside influence."

These are the facts that explain why this Congress, which has been able to swallow every warlike measure of the administration, has found it impossible to pass UMT. The evidence is that large numbers of the opposition Congressmen would have voted for this measure if they didn't fear that their constituents would boot them out at the next election. Representative Wood from Idaho made this clear in the House debate when he said:

"The true voice of America, which has sent hundreds of thousands, yes, perhaps millions of letters to this House, demanding that your constituents want none of this National Security Training Corps. . . . means just what it says. And you had better read, mark, and inwardly digest their message. The Voice of America — the true Voice of America, is speaking to you."

PUSHED BY TRUMAN

Universal conscription on a permanent, peacetime basis, for 30 years a pet scheme of the nation's capitalist-militarists, has been pushed by the Truman administration since 1945, or long before the present so-called "national emergency." However, popular opposition has always prevented its passage.

It is generally admitted by administration spokesmen that the six months training period provided in the measure is meaningless, and will not serve to produce trained soldiers. Thus the real object of the proposed bill is to be found in the seven

(Continued on page 2)

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PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Workers of the World, Unite!

Witch-Hunt Aimed at Unions, Detroit Smear-Hearings Show

FORD LOCAL DENOUNCES HOUSE GROUP'S ATTACK

By Everett Kennedy

DETROIT, March 3 — After a witch hunting orgy that raged for a week to the accompaniment of screaming newspaper headlines and blaring radio broadcasts the House Un-American Activities Committee recessed its Detroit hearings after threatening a return engagement here next Monday.

The main target of the witch hunt, according to advance notice, was to be UAW-CIO Ford Local 600, largest local union in the world. Because of its opposition to the red-baiting Reuther administration and its vigorous advocacy of a militant union program Local 600 appears as the symbol of "communism" to the labor-hating gang who descended on Detroit to do a hatchet job for the corporations. But the strong stand of the local in defense of its officers and members headed off the union-wrecking attempt to sow fear and dissension in the ranks.

WITCH HUNT VICTIMS

When the smoke cleared the witch-hunters could claim a few victims — but none in the ranks of Local 600. A school teacher was dismissed; a Wayne University student was suspended; A Detroit News artist and a Detroit Times copy editor were fired; the second violinist of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra lost his job; a County jail guard resigned and two auto workers were threatened by company-minded stooges and temporarily forced off their jobs. All, except the jail guard, appeared as "hostile witnesses" and refused to "cooperate" with the committee.

(Continued on page 2)

How Good Detroit Teacher Became As "Important as a Gun Moll"

DETROIT — The witness who got the most publicity during the House Un-American Activities Committee hearings here was Mrs. Eleanor Maki, a school teacher since 1929.

Named by one of the paid agents of the witch hunters as a longtime member of the Communist Party, Mrs. Maki was not immediately available for testimony. Her delay in appearing before the committee became the basis of hysterical headlines and stories in the daily press.

More significant was the fact that in spite of the hysteria not one person in the Detroit school system could be found who had anything but respect and praise for her conduct as a teacher. Her principal said: "She has been a good teacher at this school since 1944. We have never had a complaint against her."

In a statement to the committee, Mrs. Maki said: "Nothing I have done has been inconsistent with the true ideals of our American democracy. The hysteria whipped up by this committee has subjected me to the most vicious kind of persecution. It is directed at me as a teacher as part of a campaign to stifle freedom of thought for teachers throughout the country. I protest the actions of this committee as being un-American and a mockery of everything America has stood for in the past."

She also told the press: "Perhaps I should not say this. It is probably unwise. And yet — all my life I have worked hard. No one paid any attention. Now, suddenly, I am as important as a gun moll."

By George Lavan

A glimpse of brass-hat justice in Korea was furnished last week by the attempt of an Alloway, N. J., father to obtain a fair hearing for his 20-year old son, sentenced to ten years at hard labor in an army prison.

The soldier, PFC Warren McConnell, enlisted in the Air Force at the age of 19, was transferred to the infantry and sent to Korea, was wounded on Heartbreak Ridge and finally was court-martialed for falling asleep on sentry duty. The ten-year sentence was later upheld by the Army Judge Advocate General Board of Review.

FACTS MADE PUBLIC

McConnell's father, a millwright, has made public some of

the facts of the case. First, that his son was not allowed to take the stand in his own defense at the court-martial. Second, a letter from his son telling the story:

"We had been awake for three days prior to the time we got caught sleeping on guard. They kept us building bunkers during the daytime and pulling guard duty all night. If you have ever been awake that long you will know how we felt."

"We knew we would go to sleep if we got too comfortable on guard, so the night we got caught we tried to make ourselves as uncomfortable as possible."

"The position we had been in got hit during the day, and we picked out a new one, finally setting up on a bunch of rocks. It was cold as all get out. The last time I looked at my watch

it was 1:50 a.m. The other two had gone to sleep."

"At 2 o'clock, the lieutenant came around checking. He had slept during the day and was sleeping on guard that night until the phone guard came out to see what was the matter why he wasn't answering the phone."

"Anyhow he woke us up and told us to stay awake. Then in the morning he called us up in front of the captain and told him. . . ."

"They finally got five of us and were going to court-martial us. Three of them got out of it because the sergeant that was going to testify against them got killed two days later. That left my squad leader and me."

McConnell learned about his son's fate indirectly — the army not bothering to inform relatives

The Socialist Workers Party

presidential election campaign made further progress last week when petitions nominating Farrell Dobbs for President and Grace Carlson for Vice President were filed in one industrial state, preparations were concluded to file in a second, and successes were being recorded in a petition campaign in a third state.

Dobbs-Carlson nominating petitions were filed in Trenton on March 3, three days before the deadline. Local candidates nominated by the Socialist Workers Party in New Jersey were George Breitman for U.S. Senator and William E. Bohannon for Congressman from the 11th District.

PA. FULFILLS QUOTA

In Pennsylvania the SWP State Committee reported that by the end of the second week of a 21-day petition campaign, its canvassers had already topped the legally required minimum of 9,200 signatures. This left one more week in which additional signatures could be gathered as a safeguard against possible challenges. In this state the

petitions must be filed by March 10.

The difficulties that a minority party must overcome in gathering so many signatures in such a short period during the worst part of the winter were illustrated last Saturday when a blizzard struck Philadelphia and several other centers where canvassing was being done.

The canvassers continued their work just the same, but it was harder, colder, wetter and less rewarding in terms of signatures collected than the previous week-end. The only reason the capitalist politicians set this time of year for petition work for an election to be held in November is to make it as hard as possible for minority parties to qualify.

Besides Dobbs and Carlson, the Pennsylvania petitions, bearing the ballot name of Militant Workers Party, nominate Ann Chester for U.S. Senator and Clyde Turner for State Treasurer.

MICHIGAN CAMPAIGN

The Socialist Party in this state is also filing a presidential ticket, although decision on whether it will actually run must

await a national convention in May.

From Detroit comes a report that SWP branches are moving along comfortably in keeping up with the quotas they set to win a place on the Michigan ballot. Canvassers say they are finding it at least as easy to get signatures this year as in past petition campaigns.

There was some speculation about the effects that the widely-publicized House Un-American Committee's witch hunt hearings would have on petition-gathering. But it turned out that while a few people refused to sign, expressing fear of retribution from the committee, the average number of petitions was maintained last week.

While the results as a whole are very encouraging, there are always exceptional performances. One woman, standing in front of an A & P market in Oakland County on a Saturday, obtained 76 signatures in a little over two hours. Another canvasser went out in the morning, returned home for lunch and went out again, netting a total of 130 for the day.

Negroes Also Targets Of Red-Baiters

The Congressional witch-hunters' invasion of Detroit and their assault on CIO United Auto Workers Ford Local 600 is an alarm signal to all organized labor. Here is another and clamorous warning that the American union movement is the ultimate target of the drive against civil liberties being waged under cover of anti-Communism.

Proof of the anti-labor aim of the witch hunt, of which the House Un-American Activities Committee hearings are a part, is the place, victims, time and circumstances of its latest inquisition.

Detroit is the chief stronghold of the mighty auto workers and a bastion of union labor, both CIO and AFL. The House committee selected as its victim the largest union local in America, Ford 600, and dared to drag leading officials of this local before kangaroo-court hearings.

The auto workers are growing increasingly aroused against mass unemployment and speedup. Part of the House committee's job is to smear, confuse and intimidate union workers who are preparing to resist shameful conditions with mass actions.

ATTACK ON NEGROES

Clear evidence that part of the aims of the witch hunt are to degrade and terrorize the Negro people was disclosed by the fact that a high percentage of those called before the House committee in Detroit were Negroes, including William Hood, Local 600 Recording Secretary.

The witch hunt has become an ominous threat to the jobs and security of broad strata of the population and has given employers, both public and private, a deadly club over the workers. Among those suspended, expelled or fired just because they were called before the House hearings in Detroit were a school teacher, two newspaper employees, an orchestra member and a college student. They had no trial, had committed no misdeed. They had only stood on their constitutional rights and had refused to act as stoolpigeons.

A sinister by-product of the House committee hearings in Detroit was the driving of workers off their jobs. The hearings emboldened anti-union and company-stooge elements in the plants who employed mob action to drive out several auto workers who had been called to the hearings. The witch hunt seriously threatens to split the unions.

REUTHER SILENT

In the face of the vicious threat to the Detroit unions and the auto union specifically, the top union officials preserved a cowardly — nay, a treacherous — silence. Walter Reuther, head of the auto union, who finds time and breath for practically everything else, played dummy during the hearings. Neither he nor other leading union officials took even the elementary action of denouncing the hearings, let alone mobilizing actions against them. This was naturally interpreted as a go-ahead signal by the witch hunters.

If the anti-labor, anti-Negro opponents of civil rights can get away with their attack on Detroit workers and unions, they will not hesitate to spread their offensive to other unions throughout the country. Organized labor dare not temporize. It must arouse itself and fight the witch hunt with all its power. Both the AFL and CIO in the past went on record stigmatizing the House Un-American Activities Committee. Their protest — and their action — is needed now.



SWP TICKET FILED IN NEW JERSEY; PA. PETITIONS TOP LEGAL MINIMUM

Michigan House Passes Fascist Bill Unanimously

DETROIT, March 3 — One product of the House Un-American Activities Committee witch hunt hearings in Detroit was the passage by the Michigan House of Representatives of the most reactionary bill in the state's history.

Bill 20, misnamed a "communist control" measure, was unanimously passed by the Michigan House in the midst of the hysteria generated by the Detroit hearings. The State Senate will not be able to act on the bill until after March 13. But the House Un-American Committee has promised to make a return engagement in Detroit on March 10, at which time further sentiment for Bill 20 will be whipped up.

Patterned on the federal McCarran Act, Bill 20 contains some of the most outrageous assaults on the Bill of Rights ever passed by any state legislature.

AIMED AT LABOR

Among these is a section on "sabotage" which could be used

to cripple the labor movement. It defines "sabotage" as "the willful and malicious infliction of physical damage or injury to property." Under this broad and deliberately vague provision, any strike that shuts down a plant and prevents an employer from moving and selling products could be charged with "sabotage" and strikers could be imprisoned for from two to 20 years, in addition to penalties covered by other anti-sabotage laws already on the books.

This provision would also revive capital punishment in Michigan, stipulating punishment of death or imprisonment "should any loss of life occur by reason of... any attempted sabotage or destruction." Thus, if a bunch of scabs should attack a picket line and if anyone was killed in the violence that followed, the strikers could be subject to the death sentence (now banned in this state).

Bill 20 strikes a dagger blow at the principle of free elections by prohibiting "the name of any

communist or of any nominee of the communist party" from appearing on the ballot.

BROAD DEFINITIONS

It should not be thought that this refers to the Communist Party alone. The definition of a "communist" is broad enough to include anyone the witch hunters want to get: "A 'communist' is a person who is a member of the communist party, notwithstanding the fact that he may not pay dues to, or hold a card in, said party."

The "communist party" is "any organization... which in any manner advocates, or acts to further, the world communist movement." Under this, any organization opposing any oppressive law or practice could be designated as the "communist party" if the politicians or police wanted to suppress it. "World communist movement" could mean anything, including international labor unions or groups sympathetic to colonial movements.

A "communist front organization" is one, "the members of which are not all communists," but which "acts to further the world communist movement." An organization advocating an FEPC bill could be included under this definition.

REQUIRED TO REGISTER

Such proscribed organizations, and all of their members, would be required to register annually with the state police, and to supply, under oath, "names of persons known by registrants to be communists or members of any communist front organizations."

Failure to register or to turn in names would be a felony, punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000 and imprisonment up to ten years, or both.

Not one voice of opposition was voiced against this fascist bill when it came up for debate in the Michigan House. Rep. Carey, who is also an international representative of the CIO United Auto Workers, did raise a question about its constitutionality.

Nevertheless, when the vote was taken, not one so-called liberal, "friend of labor" or direct employee of the labor movement dared to vote against Bill 20. This is a sign of how virulent the witch hunt hysteria has become, because a number of the members of the Michigan House know deep down in their hearts that they themselves can be stigmatized and penalized under the provisions of this bill.

REUTHER SILENT

While the Reuther leadership has remained silent on the hearings and have thus aided and abetted the committee in its union-busting activities, they have felt obliged to come to the defense of UAW members forced off the job as a result of being named in the hearings.

Jess Chawin, officer of Local 154, issued a strong statement when some Hudson local members refused to work with a member named in the hearings. Similarly, Harry Southwell, Reutherite president of Local 174, issued a statement defending the right of witch hunt, John Chervany, to his job at the American Metal Products plant and threatening "disciplinary action" against those forcing him from his job.

The International Union issued a statement reaffirming the stand it had taken shortly after the outbreak of the Korean war when some members had engaged in violence against alleged Communist Party members. "Violent action which deprives individuals of their democratic rights is the weapon of the totalitarianism," said the statement which was repeated in the present case. Although the International Union remained silent on the hearings a number of local unions expressed their opposition to the purposes of the witch hunt.

Ford Local 600 played the most aggressive role in denouncing the aims and purposes of the House Un-American Committee's Detroit blitzkrieg. Briggs Local 212 General Council and DeSoto Local 227 membership also expressed their opposition by adopting resolutions condemning the committee. While the Michigan CIO News had warned in advance that the committee "aims swipe at Auto Union," it carried not one word on the hearings in its recent issue.

FORD LOCAL CONDEMNS HOUSE GROUP'S ATTACK

(Continued from page 1)

change pinpointed the whole technique of the Un-American Committee witch hunt.

It was not enough to answer "yes" or "no" to the trick question: Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party? The entire line of questioning is designed to extract information from unwilling witnesses. It is conceived as a device to turn witnesses into stool pigeons and informers. Members of the committee admitted as much in an interview published in the Detroit Free Press, Feb. 29.

All of the "hostile" witnesses subpoenaed to testify refused to answer leading questions by claiming their rights under the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution which protects a witness against self-incrimination. The Free Press put the question to committee members: "What happens if a witness should proclaim that he's a Communist and then won't answer further questions?" The Congressmen replied "that they'd probably ask the full House to cite the witness for contempt of Congress." Damn clever, these witch hunters!

PAID INFORMERS

With the hostile witnesses refusing to turn stool pigeon the committee was compelled to rely on a motley assortment of paid informers, FBI undercover agents and labor spies. While this unsavory crew did name a number of Local 600 members as "communists," only two, both officers, were summoned to appear.

William R. Hood, recording secretary of Local 600 and chairman of the National Negro Labor Council flatly denied membership in the Communist Party during the period which, as a union official, he was required to sign the Taft-Hartley "loyalty affidavits." Hood refused to divulge his Georgia birthplace for fear of reprisals against relatives still living there. He testified he left Georgia in 1910 after a mob had murdered his uncle and man-handled his father and mother.

Another Local 600 officer, vice-president Pat Rice, was the only

witness to appear before the committee who was not even questioned on alleged Communist Party membership. Later, in an interview with the press, he flatly denied ever having been a CP member. In their frenzied zeal to "get something" on a Local 600 officer the committee charged that Rice had falsified a passport application. Since the hearing it has been disclosed that the charge grew out of a typographical error on a application, which listed Rice's residence as Cleveland instead of Detroit.

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Local Addresses Of Socialist Workers Party

AKRON—For information, write P. O. Box 1842.

BOSTON—Workers Educational Center, 30 Stuart St., Open Tues. 8:30-9 P.M. Social Sat. 10-11 P.M.

BUFFALO—Militant Forum, 628 Main Street, 2nd fl. Open every Fri. evening except Sun. Phone MADISON 3900.

CHICAGO—334 S. Wabash Ave. Open daily except Sunday, 12-5:30 P.M. Phone HARRISON 7-0403.

CLEVELAND—10609 Superior Ave., DETROIT—6108 Linwood Ave. Open Mon. through Sat., 12-5 P.M. Phone 77-6267.

ELINT—SWP, 1307 Oak Street. Phone 224-86.

LOS ANGELES—1702 East 4th St. Phone ANGELES 8-4653.

MILWAUKEE—317 N. 3rd St., 3rd fl. Open Sun. through Fri., 7:30-9:30 P.M.

MINNEAPOLIS—10 South 4th St. Open daily except Sun. 10 A.M.-5 P.M. Library, bookstore. Phone MAIN 7781.

NEW HAVEN—For information, write P.O. Box 1018.

NEWARK—423 Springfield Avenue.

NEW YORK CITY—116 University Place. Phone: AL 5-7822.

BROOKLYN—18 Nevins Street, 2nd floor.

OAKLAND (Cal.)—For information write P.O. Box 1063.

PHILADELPHIA—1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd fl. Open every Fri. evening. Phone STEVENSON 4-5820.

ST. LOUIS—For information, Phone MO 7194.

ST. PAUL—Phone State headquarters, MAIN 7781.

SAN FRANCISCO—1729 Fillmore St., 4th fl. Open daily except Sunday, 12-4:30 P.M. Phone FI 6-0410.

SEATTLE—Maynard Bldg., 1st Ave. So. and Washington, Rm. 201. Open Mon. through Sat. 12-5 P.M. Branch meeting every Thurs., 7:30 P.M. Library, bookstore. Phone MAIN 9278.

YOUNGSTOWN—224 E. Federal St.

Newark Fri. Night Socialist Forum

presents a lecture on
EISENHOWER:
The Man, His Record and His Role in the Prussianization of U.S. Politics
Speaker:
DAVID BERLIN
Friday, March 14, at 8:30 PM
at 423 Springfield Avenue

Twin Cities Readers

Hear
GRACE CARLSON
Minnesota State Organizer
Speak on
"Colonial Revolt at Flood Tide"
Friday, March 14 -- 8 PM
10 S. 4th St., Minneapolis
— Admission Free —

Big Popular Protest Forces Congress To Kill UMT Bill

(Continued from page 1)

and one-half years of "reserve" status that will be imposed on every American male. The purpose of UMT is not to "train soldiers," but to make the youth available to the military establishment anytime the Pentagon wants them, without the barriers and "red-tape" that at present stands between the generals and the youth.

BRASS HAT PHILOSOPHY

One Congressman (Curtis of Missouri) charged that "the philosophy of those leaders in the Pentagon who want our 18-year-olds... is the philosophy of empire building."

The vast scale of anti-UMT feeling is seen from the character of the organizations opposing it. All the major labor organizations, the major farm organizations (Grange, Farm Bureau Federation, Farmers Union) the major church organizations (Nat'l Council of Churches of Christ with 147,000

churches and 31,000,000 church members, New York Board of Rabbis, etc.) have testified against the bill at hearings, passed resolutions against it, sent lobbyists to Washington, and raised a considerable agitation in their newspapers, magazines, press releases and special pamphlet literature.

HUGE OPPOSITION MAIL

More important than the formal stand of these organizations is the angry response of the ranks to the UMT bill. The Farmers Union reports that farm members of its organization responded to its call by pouring into Washington at the rate of 100 a week to fight the bill. The Congressional Record is filled with hundreds of resolutions against UMT sent in by local church, educational, farm and labor bodies from every corner of the nation. Congressional anti-UMT mail has been enormous.

Thus, after 7 years of pro-UMT propaganda, the Administration finds the opposition to UMT far greater than ever before.

NEW YORK WELCOME HOME DINNER-DANCE

for
GEORGE CLARKE
Program:
7 PM Rendezvous Hour
8 PM Delicious Dinner
9 PM Report on national tour and Presidential Campaign
— Dancing and Refreshments —
Subscription \$1.50 with dinner
50 cents after dinner
Make your reservations early
Saturday, March 22
116 University Place
New York 3, N. Y.

Acheson Pushes New German Army



Dean Acheson, U.S. Sec'y of State, shown addressing Lisbon conference of North Atlantic Treaty powers where plans were made to give German capitalists a big role in European armament. German capitalists are pressing for revival of German imperialism as price of joining anti-Soviet alliance. Listening are (l. to r.) Lester Pearson, Canada, Robert Schuman, France, and Anthony Eden, Great Britain.

WAR PRISONERS AND TRUCE TALKS--IMPERIALIST HYPOCRISY IN ACTION

By Joseph Keller

Since last Dec. 18 the U.S. big brass at Panmunjon have used the issue of exchange of war prisoners as a pretext to stall a Korean truce agreement. They threaten to keep the war going indefinitely over their demand for what they call the "principle" of "voluntary repatriation."

The U.S. militarists claim that many Chinese and Korean prisoners of war don't want to go back to China and North Korea. To return them to the side from which they were captured could be accomplished only by "force" and "against their will." Never, the American negotiators piously proclaim, will they use "force" or "unwilling" captives. The POWs must be given a "free choice" of "voluntary repatriation."

DUBIOUS CLAIM

We have a right to be dubious of any claim to moral principles by moralists who boasted about their "Operation Killer" and who ordered the slaughter by high explosives and flaming jellied gasoline (napalm) of millions in Korea, a majority of them civilians.

We were told that this butchery of civilians in Korea was done to "save the lives of American boys" — who should not have

been sent to Korea in the first place. Now we are told that the U.S. military chiefs are ready to sacrifice untold numbers more of U.S. troops rather than agree to a truce which would require the "forcible" return of Chinese and Korean prisoners of war.

The particular moral quail expressed regarding the return of Chinese and Korean war prisoners is altogether novel. As Far East correspondent Lindsey Parrott wrote in the Jan. 2 N. Y. Times, the "voluntary repatriation" proposition is "a new departure in the history of warfare."

It seems especially peculiar that this "difficult moral problem," as the Times called it, should newly confront the U.S. negotiators precisely when they had exhausted all rational pretexts for blocking a truce.

DIRTY BUSINESS

The moral blather about "voluntary repatriation" is an attempt to cover up one of the dirtiest sides of U.S. imperialism's "dirty war" in Korea. A close examination of the facts reveals a sordid chapter in imperialist warfare.

Last November the U.S. military command opened a fake "atrocity" drive, charging the Chinese and North Koreans with the murder of up to 8,000 U.S. prisoners of war. Parents, wives and other relatives of the 11,000 missing GIs in Korea were thrown into anguish, although Gen. Ridgway subsequently admitted that only 365 deaths of U.S. war prisoners were "verified."

The outcry of "atrocities" was suddenly dropped. Nothing more was heard of it. Meanwhile, as James Reston reported in the Feb. 27 N. Y. Times, the families of the U.S. POWs have been writing frantically to Washington demanding a quick agreement on prisoner exchange and accusing the government of "mishandling the prisoner of war issue."

POW PROTEST

Now, however, it is not so urgent for the safety of the U.S. prisoners of war to make a speedy truce. It seems it is now more urgent not to make a truce in order to "protect" the "anti-Communist" Chinese and Korean war prisoners from being returned to their own countries. The situation, according to Reston, is "misunderstood" by the mothers, fathers and wives writing protests to Washington.

When the U.S. negotiators at Panmunjon handed over the lists of war prisoners held in the U.S. compounds there were 44,000 names missing. Where were they? The American spokesmen claimed that some 40,000 of those originally classified as North Korean war prisoners were really South Koreans and civilians to boot. The U.S. had just got around to "reclassifying" them.

Reston complains, with evident regret, that the U.S. negotiators were unable to hand over "an entirely new list that could have been 'edited' to eliminate the anti-Communists" because "of the lists of prisoners previously sent to the Communists through the International Red Cross."

ORIGINAL CLAIM

The U.S. commanders had originally claimed the capture of some 176,000 North Koreans and Chinese. Among these, undoubtedly, were a large number of

South Koreans serving in the North Korean army and civilians picked up as "suspicious" and thrown into concentration camps without trial.

By including the latter under the heading of prisoners of war, the U.S. command was able to make the results of its military operations appear more impressive and, at the same time, hide the fact that large numbers of South Koreans, whom the U.S. is supposed to be "liberating," were actually fighting against the U.S. and its puppet Syngman Rhee.

The American negotiators have responded to the demand that all those originally listed as war prisoners be returned to the Chinese-North Korean side by demanding that the Chinese and North Koreans hand over some 50,000 South Koreans whom, the U.S. spokesmen claim, were "impressed" into the North Korean Army. "Impress" means to "levy or take by force for public service" — like the draft in the U.S.

The U.S. representatives do not explain why they have been compelled to hold 40,000 alleged "anti-Communist" South Koreans on the isolated prison island of Koje, while the Chinese and North Koreans are not afraid to arm these same South Koreans and infiltrate these "enemies" into the North Korean army.

KOJE MASSACRE

It was in the midst of the discussion around the cooked-up issue of "voluntary repatriation" that the massacre of South Korean civilians at the U.S. prison camp of Koje Island, off the South Korean coast, took place.

After concealing the events for five days, the U.S. military headquarters released the information that 1,700 South Korean "internees" — civilians — had "rioted" and "attacked" some 750 fully-armed members of the veteran U.S. 27th "Wolfhound" Regiment, who had entered Compound 62 on Koje Island "to line up prisoners for interviews" for "re-screening." Prison officials admit 76 prisoners were killed and 139 wounded. One U.S. soldier died.

On March 2, despite this slaughter, only nine out of nearly 6,000 prisoners at Compound 2 would agree to be transferred to another compound away from "Communist terrorism," reported Brig. Gen. Francis T. Dodd, camp commander. He said: "I can't explain it. I can only marvel at it."

SPOTLIGHT ON ISSUE

The resistance and slaughter of these South Korean civilians throw a spotlight on the real nature of "voluntary repatriation." Why would they defy overwhelming armed force and face almost certain death rather than agree to "screening" for "voluntary repatriation?" There is indication that these prisoners are being "persuaded" to "agree" to join the army of South Korean dictator Syngman Rhee. Those who refuse will be listed as "communist suspects" and face death before Rhee's firing squads. But, evidently, they feel that even this risk is preferable to being "impressed" into Rhee's army.

Last June 12 a hideous scandal was reported by the United Press from Pusan. Suh Min Ho, Chairman of the Korean National Assembly's Interior Affairs Committee, charged that more than 50,000 South Korean draftees had died in training camps, that 300,000 had deserted and that 80% of 350,000 survivors of the camps were "physical wrecks, incapable of labor."

No wonder the Korean POWs prefer immediate death to "voluntary repatriation" into Rhee's hands.

The American Way of Life

A VISIT FROM THE FBI

Harry Gersh is assistant educational director of the CIO Textile Workers of America. He says that he and his wife, Violet, used to be members of the Socialist Party

back in the Thirties, and "We are still friendly to it and its principles." Evidently this friendliness is now purely platonic, as it is with many other former Socialist Party members who worked their way into the union bureaucracy. A few months ago the Gershes had a visit from the FBI. His report, entitled "The Day the FBI Came to Our House," is printed in the January issue of Commentary. It is interesting both for what it shows about the methods of the FBI and for what it shows about the reaction of two people who now seem to regard themselves as liberals.

QUANDARY

The FBI was mainly interested in Mrs. Gersh, but they let her husband stay. "Afterward, I wondered what I would have done if they had asked me to leave them alone with my wife. Refused? Agreed? Called a lawyer?"

The FBI agents questioned her to great length, back and forth and over and over again, about the Bronx Free Fellowship — a church, a debating society, a Friday evening social and an intellectual circus," Gersh calls it, where the congregation some 20 years ago used to debate issues of the day like: How to Cure the Depression, Socialism vs. Communism, Moses, Jesus or Marx, etc.

Mrs. Gersh told them about it, admitting that in the Thirties it contained among others a Communist group and a Socialist group, to which she belonged. The FBI men kept asking for names: "Who did this? Who said that?" "Who led the Communists, Mrs. Gersh? Who spoke for them? Names, names."

Gersh says that "there was something unhealthy about the whole thing. It bothered me and I could sense that it bothered my wife. In the constant digging back for minutiae they seemed to be building somebody's coffin out of coral. And we didn't know whose." But when his wife could not remember the name of an active BFFer who is still a friend of theirs, "I helped her out," Gersh says.

Twice, when they could not remember or supply information, the FBI asked: "Would you tell us if you knew?" Gersh says: "We both said yes. I guess it's true." For they were "two citizens anxiously trying to help the surrounded intelligence officers of our government."

20 YEARS AGO

Finally, the FBI came to the point: They wanted to know what Mrs. Gersh could tell them about a certain Hollywood figure, who had been associated with Stalinist front organizations and benefit performances. Mrs. Gersh replied that she had been his girl friend 20 years ago, that she had taken him to some meetings of the Bronx Free Fellowship, but that he had not been politically conscious at that time, and that she had not seen him for almost 20 years.

Then she wanted to know why they were inquiring about her and the BFF and the Hollywood figure. "But the FBI wasn't answering that day. They were

asking. So, since we were the hosts, we answered."

Finally, the FBI men started to leave. Trying, perhaps, to be polite, one of them said: "Well, Mrs. Gersh, that's all behind you now." And he continued with a remark which Gersh doesn't remember exactly but whose sense was: "You're clean now, Mrs. Gersh. You've been mixed up in some rather shady things in the past, Socialists, Communists, but it must have been youthful wildness. You're well rid of it, as we can see from this house and this street and talking to you. You can depend on us to keep it quiet. No one will know about your record."

"It was the wrong thing to say to anyone with our background, especially Violet," says Gersh. "Mr. Walsh," she said loudly and distinctly, "I've got a good record, regardless of what the FBI thinks, and I'm proud of it." She went on in that vein for a while. She was working herself up to the point where she'd be sorry she voted for Roosevelt instead of Thomas." So Gersh broke it up and edged her back into the house.

But this feeble little outburst, evidently generated by remorse, does not change the fact that the Gershes, who claim to be "still friendly to socialist principles, had permitted themselves to play the role of informers. What a far cry from the forthright position taken by the admittedly conservative writer and critic, Bernard De Voto, who wrote in the October 1949 issue of Harper's Magazine:

DE VOTO STATEMENT

"I like a country where it's nobody's damned business what magazine anyone reads, what he thinks, whom he has cocktails with. I like a country where we do not have to stuff the chimney against listening ears and where what we say does not go into the FBI files along with a note from S-17 that I may have another wife in California. I like a country where no college-trained flatfoot collect memoranda about us and ask judicial protection for them, a country where when someone makes statements about us to officials he can be held to account. We had that kind of country only a little while back and I'm for getting it back."

And then De Voto served notice to the FBI: "From now on any representative of the government, properly identified, can count on a drink and perhaps informed talk about the Red (but non-Communist) Sox at my house. But if he wants information from me about anyone, whomsoever, no soap. If it is my duty as a citizen to tell what I know about someone, I will perform that duty under subpoena, in open court, before that person and his attorney. This notice is posted in the court-house square: I will not discuss anyone in private with any government investigator."

It looks as though some of our labor leaders, even those who boast of their radical past, will have to go quite a way before they reach the level, in common decency and intelligence, of even old-fashioned conservatives.

— John F. Petrone

THE MILITANT ARMY

Helen S. reports that Minneapolis was pleased with the front-page article in The Militant on the Clarke-Child debate. "With Comrade Cannon's speech on the Socialist Workers Party election campaign plus the lead article on the cost of living, Minneapolis Militant salesmen took to this particular issue of the paper with a great deal of enthusiasm," Helen writes. "Millie, Doris, Julia, Larry and Helen sold at the AFL Hall. Donald spent an hour on Saturday going house to house and sold six papers and an FI."

"Doris sold 15 copies of this issue on the university campus. Besides this, a large number of comrades bought extra Militants to take with them to give to friends in their neighborhoods and on the job. Every worker who gets a copy of The Militant is a prospective subscriber, you know!"

Literature Agent Jane Sebastian sends in an order for 100 extra of the March 3 Militant containing the front-page article by D. Rossa describing the strike

victory of San Francisco street and cable carmen. "We are going to take this issue to the car-barns to sell," Jane writes. "We intend to see that the carmen themselves get that story."

"New York sales haven't been as good as they were during the weeks of the big Moore meetings," says Literature Agent Ethel Swanson, "but we have been out selling just as often. That is encouraging and it's bound to bring results in the long run. This week Renee and Ethel B. sold five papers at the New School. At NYU Bezie sold three Militants and one FI, and Ray M. sold nine papers and two FIs. Ray and Janice are also selling pamphlets every week. Lenny sold two papers at the Henry George School. In the projects Joyce reports seven Militants and one 25c. local delivery sub sold while Frank F. and Harold D. sold 11 papers and three 25c. subs."

C.H.D., a friend in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, writes to express his appreciation for The Militant and to renew his subscription. "Keep on sending The Militant. I eagerly await each issue and read it cover to cover." C.H.D. also includes an order for 100 copies of some of the back issues which he particularly liked to give to his friends.



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The New Thought-Control Edict

On Monday, March 3, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down a decision concurred in by six Justices which upheld the constitutionality of the New York State Feinberg Law, a measure for the regimentation of teachers. Speaking of so-called "Communist propaganda," the decision says:

"This propaganda, the (New York) Legislature declared, is sufficiently subtle to escape detection in the classroom; thus, the menace of such infiltration into the classroom is difficult to measure."

The purpose of this remarkable statement is to establish that teachers may be fired even when they propagate no detectable heresies in their classrooms. In other words, if a teacher is accused of "disloyalty," and in reply points out that he has never uttered anything of a "communist" leaning in a classroom, or that he teaches mathematics or some other subject which is not connected with politics, the witchhunters will now be able to reply: "You have been spreading propaganda, but exactly what it is we cannot tell you, for it was too subtle to be detected."

What does this phrase of the Supreme Court, "sufficiently subtle to escape detection," mean?

If propaganda can be so subtle that trained police witch hunters will not be able to detect it, how can it possibly have any effect on the students?

If propaganda is to be this subtle, it would have to avoid any defense of Marxism, communism, socialism, or any ideas which might be defended by communists, socialists or Marxists. If "propagandists" were to be so "subtle" as to defy detection, they would have to limit themselves to ideas which are not peculiar to communists, but which could also be defended by liberals, trade-unionists, defenders of Negro rights, etc.

What this means, therefore, is that a teacher who defends causes which are unpopular with the capitalist class, such as civil rights, labor rights, limitations of profits, TVA's, socialized medicine, or any one of a hundred other progressive causes, can, and certainly will be labeled a purveyor of "communist propaganda" which he is keeping "subtle" so as to "escape detection."

Thus what the Truman-packed Supreme Court is doing here is opening up the flood-gates to thought control in a manner unprecedented in U.S. constitutional history. What this ruling means is that, not only do teachers lose their freedom of speech, but they lose the freedom of thinking what they please even if they never say it.

The mere thought is made a crime even if unexpressed in the spoken word, because the teacher, by having the unspoken thought, lays himself open to the charge that he has spread "propaganda too subtle to be detected."

Capitalist Choice: Crash or War

By John G. Wright

It is the arms boom, and the arms boom alone, that has thus far averted another depression and any relaxation of the armaments drive carries with it dire economic consequences. What The Militant has said since 1948 is now being admitted by authoritative capitalist economists.

Early in January a five-man economic team of the United Nations, chaired by J. W. Angell of Columbia University, issued a special report, entitled, *Measures for International Economic Stability*, and offering plans to counteract a depression "some two years" from now, consequent on any scaling down of rearmament.

RECESSION IN 1954

The London Economist, in its Jan. 19 issue, accepts this prospect of "The Recession of 1954," talks about it as if it is a foregone conclusion, and hails the Angell report as deserving "a warm welcome and close attention." This British economic weekly, one of the most authoritative in the capitalist world, calmly admits that in the United States, the arms drive has served as "the main engine of the boom that succeeded the end of the war in 1945"; and that two years from now any suspension of the current arms program "will be reflected in burdensome surpluses of materials that no one wants at the remunerative price."

The Economist editors enthusiastically agree with the Angell report that the coming slump will not be on the scale of the 1929 crash. "Future recessions will be comparatively slight and they will be corrected within a year or two," they say. But amid this "optimism," they strike a very sour note by calling attention to the debilitated condition of capitalist Europe whose bankrupt economies are incapable of withstanding even "comparatively slight" depressions.

The spokesmen of British imperialism cautiously point out that the "gold and dollar reserves of many countries besides Britain" are only one-half today of what they were in prewar days; "and it does not need a major slump to drain away reserves of that size within a year," they warn.

FRIGHTENED CAPITALISTS

For all their "confident" talk about a "slight" future "recession of 1954," these frightened capitalists who are talking. Besides, they would much rather discuss future difficulties than, say, the current crisis of British capitalism, the worst in the succession of British postwar economic paroxysms. Britain, which

still controls a half of the entire world trade, has been losing gold and dollar reserves at a record rate. And according to Paul Bureau, assistant editor of the London Economist, now touring the U.S., Britain "must expect to go on losing gold" well into "the second-half of 1952."

France is, if anything, in a worse position. Her fiscal system is in "a near-bankrupt condition." Rumors of new French currency devaluation have sent the franc plunging from the official rate of 350 to a dollar to 460, or a drop of almost one-third.

Concern and anxiety are also rife in many capitalist circles here at home. For example, the weekly U.S. News, of March 7, carried an exclusive interview with A. S. McLeod, "chief of (U.S. News) Economic Unit," who flatly affirmed: "There is sure to be" a depression as "this

arms boom wears out." McLeod's sole consolation, like that of the Angell report and the London Economist, is that there will be "no repetition of 1929," and that this future depression will not last more than "a year or two."

Not so optimistic have been the reports carried by the Wall Street Journal, one of the chief mouthpieces of the U.S. financiers and speculators. On Feb. 26 the Journal reported that "some federal economists" envisage the need "in the midst of a huge arms build-up . . . to prime the pump for civilian business." One top "federal economist" reportedly fears a "slight recession" by 1953.

THE MAIN FACTOR

The main factor disrupting economic life here and abroad is, of course, inflation. Soaring prices abroad have cut into all imports.

French Police Battle Auto Workers



French police use overturned truck for barricade in battle with demonstrating Renault workers in Paris suburb on Feb. 12. Eighty thousand police were mobilized in battle array throughout the nation, but the workers came out in demonstrations protesting the government's ban on traditional parades commemorating the mass struggles that blocked the road to fascism in France in 1934. Clashes of this kind testify to a continuing social crisis in France, aggravated since Feb. 12 by the Lisbon conference decision which would greatly increase the French arms budget and which quickly led to the downfall of the Faure cabinet. France, which is supposed to be one of the chief bastions of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, is kept unstable and shaky by the exorbitant armament demands of U.S. imperialism, the revolt of the French colonies in Asia and Africa, and the resistance of the French workers to lower living standards at home.

Hunger is a Man Made Plague

By Grace Carlson

THE GEOGRAPHY OF HUNGER
 by Josue de Castro, Little, Brown and Company, 1952, 337 pp. \$4.50.

Bruce Barton, the not-so-very-scientific commentator on political science, social science, psychological science and a host of other kindred subjects, wrote in his syndicated column, entitled "White Man's New Burden?" (Minneapolis Star, Feb. 23):

"Stalin's biggest ally in the cold war is never publicly mentioned. It is OVER-POPULATION — subsidized by the American taxpayer's dollars."

CRACKING THE WHIP

That is the background for the wails of distress and the bellicose threats hurled by the heads of the two capitalist parties in the House of Representatives. All United Fruit has to do is comply with Guatemala laws — pay wages owed and return a small part of the hundreds of millions they have taken away from Guatemala so that banana production can be resumed — and the dispute will be settled. But this mighty corporation refuses. It hopes by economic pressure, the ranting of Congressmen and the hysteria being whipped up by corrupt newspapermen, to have its own way in Guatemala.

Well, I hope they don't get it. I hope the government and people of Guatemala will stand firm and refuse to be intimidated. And I hope that I will never be conscripted to go in uniform to Guatemala to drive "the free way of life" down their throats for the greater glory of U.S. imperialism and the greater profit of United Fruit. From where I stand, Guatemala has a lot of laws, institutions and traditions that it would benefit the U.S. to imitate.

AUTHOR'S BACKGROUND

Dr. de Castro brings to his self-imposed task of demolishing the inhuman neo-Malthusian theories, an illustrious scientific back-

ground and an impressive list of achievements in social work. The executive Chairman of the FAO — the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, Dr. de Castro is also a member of the UN Advisory Committee on Nutrition. He is the head of the University of Brazil's Geography Department, where he teaches Human Geography as well as courses in Food and Nutrition in the medical college. He is the author of "The Food Problem in Brazil," "Food and Race," "Human Geography" and "Physiology of Taboos," as well as a score of articles which were carried in leading scientific and medical magazines.

That Dr. de Castro is a native Brazilian and a close student of the miserable living conditions of the oppressed Latin American people undoubtedly helps to lift "The Geography of Hunger" above the level of the ordinary scientific treatise.

Hunger as defined by this author runs all the way from sheer starvation or famine to the so-called hidden hunger, i.e., the absence from the diet of one or more of the 40 food constituents needed to maintain health. Thus the author shows that hunger for minerals, hunger for vitamins, hunger for proteins may condemn whole populations to slow death. Then, he presents this terrible conclusion:

"We know from scientific observation that today, two-thirds of the world's population lives in a permanent state of hunger. A billion and a half human beings cannot find the means of escaping this most terrible affliction of society."

MAN-MADE PLAGUE

Hunger is a man-made plague, Dr. de Castro asserts, and adduces considerable evidence to prove that cultural rather than natural forces create it. Great natural catastrophes which disrupt the food supply and cause starvation and famine are rare occurrences but the fact that two-thirds of the world's population lives in a state of hunger under "normal" conditions demonstrates that defects in social organization are to blame.

With the proper organization of society (what we call Social-

American retailers are finding it increasingly "more difficult to buy abroad." Conversely, "European retailers are finding it impossible to buy anything in this country," concludes a recent Scripps-Howard survey. Lack of dollar credits, on top of high prices, is tending to further paralyze world trade. The imposition of new and intolerable arms burdens, which find their expression abroad primarily through increased indirect taxes, keeps commodity and wholesale prices from declining in most European countries.

All this acts to aggravate the world slump in soft goods, which in this country enters into its twelfth month. Among the hardest hit is Japan whose textile production has just been cut 40% by government decree.

The blight of unemployment, amid inflation, has thus far hit hardest in the U.S. There already are "18 critical centers," with Detroit and its 175,000 jobless auto-workers heading the list.

SHORT WORK WEEKS

In textile industry, as in others, the full extent of unemployment has been masked by part-time employment. Many textile mills have "shortened the work-week" in order "to spread employment." According to Potofsky, president of ACW-CIO, "50 percent unemployment has hit woolen garment manufacturing workers in New York, Chicago, Boston," and nine other cities, "and that the cotton garment workers similarly effected are in New England, New York, New Jersey, Maryland and in the South and Mid-West."

If gluts prevail in the consumer-goods sector (from textiles to autos), then "surpluses" have suddenly begun to appear in such hitherto "super-scarce" fields as lead, zinc, brass and even some types of steel. By March 2 steel was reported to be piling up in warehouses which handle approximately one-fifth of all the steel used.

The Wall Street Journal on Feb. 26, quoted "a White House economist" as saying, "If it weren't for the defense program we'd be in a very serious situation now." This is for sure. The uttering capitalist economies here and abroad have no other prop except the arms drive, which, in its turn, only poses ever more sharply before the imperialist rulers the alternative of a plunge either into war or into a catastrophic depression.

Mass Resistance Greets NATO Rearming Plans

By Fred Hart

The imperialist diplomats gloated when the recent Lisbon conference agreed to build a six-nation army under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and to raise 50

divisions by the end of 1952. But their feeling of triumph did not last long. Within a matter of days, they were beset with new problems, headaches and opposition so widespread that they began to act like men in the throes of acute desperation.

"A vast step forward," said Secretary of State Acheson after the Lisbon announcement, complimenting his European allies for swinging into line behind Washington's rearmament program. But a week later Democratic Senator Connally was brutally cracking the whip and threatening to cut off economic aid to the French unless they "do their duty" and the capitalist press was snarling furiously at the West European working class.

The point was this: Acheson could get the European capitalist governments to agree to a rearmament program that their economies cannot sustain, but neither he nor they could make the European masses accept it willingly.

FRENCH CRISIS

The French government collapsed like a house of cards as soon as it introduced a bill to raise the money needed to implement the Lisbon program. It is doubtful that this parliamentary crisis can be solved in the near future, even with the cabinet, so long as the Lisbon burden is maintained.

France is paying 1½ billion dollars for its colonial war in Indo-China, a sum that is draining it dry. Now it is told that it must raise twice that amount for European rearmament — or else it will be deprived of the American dollars that have kept it going so far. The economic and social crisis of France is thus being aggravated almost to the breaking point by the demands of the U.S. overlords.

Things have become so bad, the March 3 Christian Science Monitor reported, that "some American and French officials are giving serious consideration for the first

time to giving up in Indo-China and letting the Communists take over."

GERMAN OPPOSITION

In Germany, mass opposition to the new rearmament program is especially pronounced. "The people are furious that the government, against their will and without authorization from Parliament, agreed to contribute German divisions, and billions of marks as well, to NATO defense," Carolus reports from Bonn in the March 8 Nation. "The Social Democratic opposition is determined that the agreement shall not be carried out and is renewing its demand for a general election," which the Adenauer regime would hate to face.

When the head of the German trade union movement gave conditional support to rearmament, his statement "evoked violent protests, and revolts against his leadership are brewing in many unions. The question what can be done if the government majority imposes militarization is passionately discussed by rank-and-file unionists, and occasionally one hears talk of a general strike. That such a drastic measure is even thought of shows how severe is the crisis," Carolus continues.

The same report says that opposition has become "better organized, more definite and more widespread," with the result that Allied officials are beginning to question if the Adenauer government can win a majority for a rearmament budget in the Bundestag. It is freely admitted that the opposition includes middle class as well as labor groups.

UNION REBELLION

"The trade union rebellion against rearmament is in full swing," writes the N. Y. Times correspondent in Bonn on March 5. "At a meeting of local union leaders from all over West Germany held recently in Duesseldorf, speaker after speaker arose to denounce the national leadership of the trade unions for having accepted the rearmament plans."

The same report says that opposition has become "better organized, more definite and more widespread," with the result that Allied officials are beginning to question if the Adenauer government can win a majority for a rearmament budget in the Bundestag. It is freely admitted that the opposition includes middle class as well as labor groups.

The economic basis for this rebellion is explained by Carolus as follows: Adenauer agreed to spend 12½ billion marks a year on arms, he says he won't ask for higher taxes, but he is going to demand that the Laender (states) raise their contributions to the federal government to 40% of their revenues. "That will mean an end to their public-housing projects and a sharp curtailment of relief for the nine million refugees from the east and the even needier pensioners, disabled veterans, war widows, and orphans."

DOUBTS IN U.S.

This situation has created some doubts even in the top circles of U.S. imperialism. The Wall Street Journal wrote on March 4, "We know that to even raise these questions is considered in some quarters as nefarious. . . . We think that the evidence is accumulating that Europe cannot support the great arms edifice that we are trying to make it build."

But this is not the dominant viewpoint in the Truman administration. The get-tough-with-Europe spokesmen are proceeding on the assumption that they can overcome the mounting resistance by bullying, blustering and economically pressuring their junior partners in Europe into "stiffening" their policies — that is, trying to jam the arms program down the throats of the masses just as Washington has jammed it down the throats of the European governments.

The March 4 N. Y. Times suddenly notifies Europe that "the fall of the French cabinet . . . the growing agitation against rearmament in Germany and the success of the Socialist lunatic fringe in driving the British Labor Party toward pacifism" are "causes for concern." (The so-called "lunatic fringe" happens to speak for the majority of the British working class in its opposition to rearmament.)

Europeans "should not ignore" Connally's brutal warning, the Times declares. "The sooner they pay heed to it the better it will be for all concerned." By which the Times means: "Intensify class warfare against the European masses and their living standards, brother capitalists in Europe, or we'll make it hot for you."

The European capitalists know this, and they want to comply. The trouble is that if they do, the European masses will make it hot for them too.

ARE YOU READY TO FIGHT AND DIE FOR UNITED FRUIT COMPANY PROFITS?

By George Breitman

On Feb. 25 two men took the floor of the House of Representatives in Washington, interrupting a debate on another subject to make statements on a "grave danger" to the people of the United States. One was the Democratic leader of the House, John W. McCormack and the other was the Republican leader of the House, Joseph W. Martin Jr., both from Massachusetts.

It seems, according to McCormack, that a "Soviet beach-head" has appeared "in the Western Hemisphere right under our noses in Guatemala." And, according to Martin, that there is a "ruthless . . . Communist attack against American interests in Guatemala" that threatens the "free way of life" and "the inter-American system which has been painstakingly erected over the course of many years."

From the tone of their remarks, it seemed quite possible that Guatemala had declared war on the U.S. and that its fleet and air force was already on the way to bomb Washington. For a few minutes it looked as if the gentlemen from Massachusetts were about to demand at least a declaration of national emergency.

UNITED FRUIT

Fortunately, however, the situation did not get out of hand. It turned out that the two congressmen were not speaking directly for the State Department or the Department of Defense, but only for the United Fruit Company, whose headquarters is in Boston. It also turned out that it was not exactly the U.S. that was under attack, but the profits of United Fruit.

Guatemala is a Central American republic just south of Mexico, about the size of Pennsylvania, with a population of 3,500,000. Its chief products are coffee and

bananas. The banana crop is controlled by United Fruit, which is also part of a British-American combine, International Railways of Central America, that owns the country's railroads. Its power is in the hands of the Electric Bond and Share interests.

U.S. capitalists have \$200,000,000 invested in Guatemala, almost three times the annual national gross product. The poverty-stricken people have always hated the foreign corporations that exploit them — first the British, and more recently the U.S. imperialists. They especially hate United Fruit because of its collaboration with the bloody dictatorship of Jorge Ubico, which lasted from 1930 to 1944.

RED HERRING

After Ubico, came the presidency of Juan Jose Arevalo, an anti-imperialist. Though the constitution outlawed the Communist Party, Arevalo "refused to suppress Communist propaganda because he believed that after centuries of repression, Guatemala needed an ideal civil liberties regime." (Washington Post, Feb. 17).

For this heinous attitude, Arevalo and his successor, President Jacobo Arbenz Guzman, have been vilified by U.S. journalists as "communists" or "communist cats-paws." "Coffee planters, merchants, and bankers dislike the leftist government," reported Ludwell Denny on Feb. 13 — so United Fruit is not alone in that respect.

Last September a Pacific hurricane destroyed 10,000 acres of banana trees on United Fruit's Tiquisate plantations. (Martin calls this "an act of God" but he may yet be called before the House Un-American Committee to PROVE that it was not engineered by the "communists.") United Fruit refused to start a \$10,000,000 rehabilitation program unless the government would violate its own laws in granting the corporation certain concessions. To increase pressure, the

corporation laid off 4,000 workers. But the laws of Guatemala, unlike those of the U.S., don't permit employers to treat the workers like cattle.

The case was taken to a labor court, which ruled in January that United Fruit had to pay their back wages, about \$650,000, plus indemnities. The court also placed an export embargo on Tiquisate products until the award is paid. (It's hard to imagine a court in the U.S. acting like that.)

United Fruit appealed to the Supreme Court. The Guatemala Supreme Court dismissed the appeal. (Try to picture the U.S. Supreme Court under similar circumstances!) As a result, moves were begun to sell the corporation's properties at a forced auction on March 5 in order to pay the award.

CRACKING THE WHIP

That is the background for the wails of distress and the bellicose threats hurled by the heads of the two capitalist parties in the House of Representatives. All United Fruit has to do is comply with Guatemala laws — pay wages owed and return a small part of the hundreds of millions they have taken away from Guatemala so that banana production can be resumed — and the dispute will be settled. But this mighty corporation refuses. It hopes by economic pressure, the ranting of Congressmen and the hysteria being whipped up by corrupt newspapermen, to have its own way in Guatemala.

Well, I hope they don't get it. I hope the government and people of Guatemala will stand firm and refuse to be intimidated. And I hope that I will never be conscripted to go in uniform to Guatemala to drive "the free way of life" down their throats for the greater glory of U.S. imperialism and the greater profit of United Fruit. From where I stand, Guatemala has a lot of laws, institutions and traditions that it would benefit the U.S. to imitate.

Jim Crow and the CIO

By Jean Blake

Last month, when this column was opened to a discussion of Jim Crow in the unions, we invited our readers to join in and let us know about their opinions and experiences in this field. Here we print the first contribution to the discussion, and hope that it will encourage others:

"I think you and The Militant have done a real service by starting a discussion on the problem of Jim Crow in the unions and how to combat it successfully. There is too much of a tendency in the labor movement to ignore this problem merely because in the last decade some progress has been made, mainly on a local level, in winning union posts for Negroes and in wiping out some of the discrimination in upgrading, etc. It's a real problem, not only in the steel union, and I hope among other things that the discussion will give us facts about other unions as well as suggestions for combating them.

"I am in full accord with you on what should be done. The allies of the Negro union members in conflicts with bigoted types like William Donovan, director of the Steelworkers Union in the Cleveland area, are the white union members who also have plenty of grievances against such bureaucrats. The rank and file must cooperate in getting rid of such disgraceful elements who do nothing but harm to the cause of organized and unorganized labor.

"We agree on the strategy. I believe we also agree on the tactics, but to be absolutely certain of this, I want to say some things about a few remarks you made in your column on the subject. You wrote as follows:

"The editor (of the Cleveland Call and Post) failed to outline any course other than appealing to the CIO's top leadership to clean out the Donovans. It is necessary to expose the role of bigoted bureaucrats to the top leadership, and to all working people, but a realistic approach to the problem cannot depend on bureaucrats to clean out bureaucrats." You also said that getting rid of the Donovans can be achieved only 'by building a new-left wing leadership and returning

the unions to the democratic control of the ranks — not by appealing to the Murrays and McDonalds or any other of the same stripe."

"As I understand it, you are not saying that we should not appeal to the top CIO leaders to end Donovanism; what you are saying is that such appeals, by themselves, are not enough. That is absolutely true. But we should be careful not to underestimate the importance of appealing to Philip Murray and demanding that he put a stop to the Jim Crow behavior of his lieutenants.

"Murray has made many attacks on Jim Crow and discrimination in the CIO. At the national CIO convention last November he made a long speech urging the delegates to go back to their unions and put into practice the anti-discriminatory programs and speeches they were making. Wouldn't it be a good thing for him to be put on the spot by demands from members of his own union, asking him too to practice what he preaches? Wouldn't it be a bad thing if no appeals and pressure were applied to him—wouldn't that make it easier for him to continue dodging the problem — wouldn't that be playing right into the hands of the Donovans?

"Naturally, we cannot depend on bureaucrats to clean out bureaucrats. In addition to appealing to Murray to enforce the avowed policies of the CIO, we must, as you say, organize and unite the rank and file for positive action of their own to show their opposition to Jim Crow in all forms. But these two steps, according to my view, are not contradictory but complementary. We can and should do both. Putting pressure on Murray, and then letting everybody see how he reacts to justified demands, is one of the best ways to arouse the rank and file and show them the need for independent activity along the lines you suggest.

"From your column I am sure that this is your viewpoint too. Best wishes to you and The Militant in working out a program of action that will help the Negro people win their rightful place in the labor movement."

People Do Change

By Ruth Johnson

People who claim that "socialism won't work" are also fond of saying "you can't change human nature." But the lives of a whole community can alter in one generation. A new scientific example of this appears in the Feb. 1952 issue of the American Journal of Psychiatry, explaining how in 40 years the men of Harlan County, Kentucky, have changed from frontiersmen to industrial workers... from "rugged individualists" to staunch union men — and how social changes have brought them a new realism in facing emotional crises.

These studies are the result of the first psychiatric study of coal miners, made possible by the United Mine Workers' Welfare and Retirement Fund. Dr. Carl Wiesel of Lexington, Ky., and Malcolm Army, a psychiatric social worker with the Harlan County Mental Hygiene Clinic, examined 100 patients in preparing their report.

To go into the case-histories cited by Wiesel and Army, would take us too far afield. More important for us is the fact that they found the symptoms of the men, "particularly in the older age-group, assumed such a uniform pattern as almost to be recognized as a 'miner's syndrome.'" And they correctly concluded that the reason for identical symptoms must lie in the "cultural, geographical, and social background as well as the problems inherent in coal mining itself."

Until 1910, Wiesel and Army found, the Harlan County area had been an isolated mountain community, with strong family ties uniting a population of small farmers. The farmers had little income, but their economy was almost self-contained and tended to be egalitarian. "The family was closer to the patriarchal pattern than the American family in general. . . . Politically the frontiersman was independent, defensive, and resistant to the expansion of government."

Then Eastern industry, in need of more coal, reached into the Kentucky hills. "Gradually the family lost its status as the basis of society; instead the mining company or coal operator guided the individual's destiny. . . . Social life underwent a complete change. The coal camp and its

laws became the center of the social structure rather than the family. The law was the company deputy. . . . Resistance to giving up individualistic freedom was strong but any objective lack of cooperation was dealt with by the laws of the coal camp. Threat of discharge and eviction was enough to quiet any individualist. Self-sufficiency and independence were gone. There was no other employment and he (the miner) knew nothing else."

It looked as though the coal barons had forced frontiersmen into submission. By 1920-21-22, "Harlan County was able to increase its coal production because of the low wages paid as it had non-union labor and wages were reduced to bring prices of coal down below that of competition." But the miners were seething. "The antagonism they felt toward the restrictions imposed on them by the new industrial society was buried within them because the attractions of this economy outweighed its limitations. Occasional animosities erupted in drinking and shooting sprees."

The company towns were called paternalistic because they supplied churches, housing, stores . . . all provided by the operators in order to increase the workers' dependence. But they had nothing in common with the old patriarchal system which had protected all its members. Increasingly bitter, the miners began to look for a new basis of solidarity. They found it. "During the 1930's the conflict between the operators and unions overshadowed all else and earned for the county the stigma of 'Bloody Harlan' because of the violence that erupted. . . ."

The struggle marked the final change of the former frontier farmer, the former individualist, into a member of a new "family." The miner "turned his allegiance to the union as his protector. It received all his loyalty and became the chief source of security."

Today, union brotherhood is a tie that binds the men of Harlan County closer than ever before. Yet, when the time comes, how much more rapidly this new family will change into a still greater brotherhood of all working women and men in the socialist future!

Notes from the News

THE YALE LAW JOURNAL in its current issue calls unconstitutional the State Department's policy of denying passports for foreign travel to U.S. citizens for political reasons. The Journal tells of a case where a writer, who had been assigned by a group of U.S. newspapers to go to Italy to do a series on land reform and the Marshall Plan there, had been refused a passport. One of the reasons given was that nothing "constructive" could be expected from his writings. When the writer expressed a willingness to write "constructively" it appeared that the State Dept. might reconsider.

CIO PROTESTS FRANCISCO'S BUTCHERY . . . Jacob S. Potofsky, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and chairman of the International Committee of the CIO denounced the death sentences on nine anti-fascists recently announced by Franco Spain. Potofsky said: "These workers, and others convicted in recent mass trials at Seville and Barcelona, were arrested, tried and sentenced by the dictator's courts for the 'heinous crime' of trying to build free, democratic, responsible labor unions."

GOVT CONTROL OF SCIENTISTS . . . Forty per cent of the nation's scientists are working on Defense Department projects. Many more scientists are employed by other governmental agencies. All are subject to thought control "loyalty" tests and FBI surveillance.

BETTER THAN BILLBOARDS—AND FREE . . . Protests in Congress and a law suit have failed to prevent the Postmaster General from issuing a stamp commemorating the 125th anniversary of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Co. The new stamp is the first in U.S. history to advertise the trade name and services of an existing corporation engaged in business for profit.

HEY — THAT'S FOR STRIKERS . . . A Minnesota State Guard dance broke up in a hurry when an inexperienced Guard member pulled the pin on a tear gas grenade by mistake. The 300 Guardsmen and their guests fled the Minneapolis Armory in tears.

OH! THE INGRATITUDE OF (CAPITALIST) POLITICIANS . . . Rudolph Halley, elected President of New York's City Council four months ago as the Liberal Party candidate just gave that party a public slap in the face. Halley, who the Liberal Party hopes to run as its candidate for Mayor in 1953, went out of his way in a speech to point out that he wasn't a member of the Liberal Party and that he hoped to be the mayoralty candidate of a "cleaned-up" Democratic Party (i.e. Tammany Hall).

CIO TEXTILE WORKERS STRIKE . . . The first, in what may be a wave of strikes in answer to the union-busting drive of the woolen and worsted mill owners of New England, started Feb. 25 in East Douglas, Mass.

GOVT GIFT TO BIG BUSINESS . . . Bethlehem Steel Corporation plans to "spend" \$289 million on new plants and other facilities. \$221 million of this is from the government in the form of "certificates of necessity" allowing the cost of the new plants to be deducted from income tax over a five year period. To date C. E. Wilson's mobilization setup has handed out 6,522 "certificates of necessity" covering investments of over \$13,793,000,000.

PRUDENTIAL WALKOUT SETTLED . . . By a narrow margin the 15,000 members of the AFL Insurance Agents International Union voted to end their 81-day strike against the Prudential Life Insurance Co. The strikers' principal demand had been for an increase in minimum pay from \$35 to \$55 a week. Instead they received an average increase — not in minimum pay but in expenses and commissions — of \$5.36 and a per capita lump payment of \$150. The two-year contract contained a few other concessions on arbitration, pensions, etc.

INDIAN ELECTION . . . According to a N. Y. Times dispatch from New Delhi, Nehru's Congress party "holds 363 seats in the central House of the People, the Communists, twenty-seven, and the Socialists, twelve."

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Second Negro Labor Group Is Established

NEW YORK, March 2 — A conference of trade union leaders, meeting at the Hotel Theresa yesterday, voted to expand the Negro Labor Committee into a national organization. The NLC was originally formed in 1935 to operate in New York City.

The new group has the support of the CIO and AFL, which were represented at the conference by James B. Carey and Lewis G. Hines. It reported an attendance of 350 delegates from 75 trade unions.

The formal program of the Negro Labor Committee resembles that of the National Negro Labor Council, which was formed in Cincinnati last October, except that the new organization excludes "Communist or Communist-dominated trade unions" and lines up with U.S. imperialism in the cold war against the Soviet Union. Both groups call for a struggle against Jim Crow, the passage of civil rights legislation, etc.

NO SECRET

It is no secret that the only reason the AFL and CIO leaders decided to form the Negro Labor Committee was their fear that the Negro Labor Council would win the support and sympathy of large numbers of Negro workers inside the AFL and CIO.

When the Council was first set up, the top labor leaders hit it with everything they had, including redbaiting and charges of "dual unionism." A typical complaint of the CIO leaders was: "Why do you need another group when we have the National CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination?"

But the support given the Council was itself proof that the CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination was not doing the job that Negro workers want to be done, and that there is plenty of room and need for a militant organization working to eliminate discriminatory obstacles to real equality in the plants and unions.

The redbaiting was not effective, and now the CIO and AFL leaders seem to have decided that since they could not lick the Council in this way, they will have to imitate it. They would like now to forget their phony charge that organizing an anti-Jim Crow group of union members outside the regular framework of the unions is "dual unionism," because they have done it themselves.

At the Hotel Theresa Carey substituted the equally phony charge that the Council is "a Jim Crow outfit." Actually, the Council admits white workers and unionists on exactly the same basis as the Negro Labor Committee. (And anyhow, there would be nothing "Jim Crow" about an organization composed solely of Negro workers dedicated to ending Jim Crow.)

TIME WILL TELL

From its inception, the Committee has far greater resources, financial and otherwise, than the Council. It has the backing of organizations numbering 15 million members, including over one million Negro workers. It has behind it the prestige of the great labor federations, entry into their affiliated unions, and easy access to their members.

If it wants to, the Negro Labor Committee can do great things. Time will tell if it intends to function seriously as a militant champion of Negro rights, or if it is interested chiefly in stealing the thunder of the Negro Labor Council.

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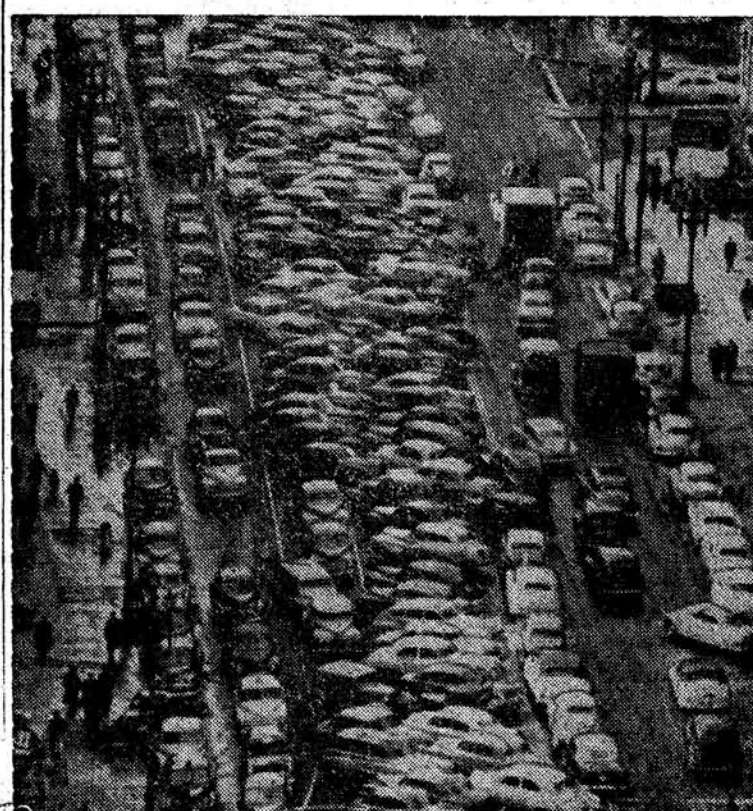
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THE MILITANT

San Francisco Strike Won



AFL street-car workers won strike over work schedules in short order, as all public transportation in San Francisco was halted for 3 days. Motorists took advantage of strike to park cars on unused trolley tracks in the busy downtown area.

COLLEGE FIRES WORKER IN UNION-BUSTING MOVE

By Fred Arens

In an attempt to stop unionization of cafeteria employees, Columbia University officials have fired Mrs. Otto H. Olsen, cafeteria clerical worker and member of the Transport Workers Union (CIO).

the window with the decline of the Pinkerton strikebreakers. One editorial wonders "whether the faculty and other University officers do not feel a bit frustrated, teaching one set of ideals in the classroom, only to have their efforts defeated in the dining hall."

Many students have voiced their protest against the University's union-busting in letters to the student paper. One writer calls for a "boycott of the University dining halls until the union is recognized." The letter adds "Please do not publish my name as the administration could easily retaliate against me."

Explaining the dismissal, Joseph P. Nye, director of residence halls, stated that "it was becoming increasingly embarrassing to have Mrs. Olsen working in the office in her condition of pregnancy," that "the activities and sentiments expressed by her husband were affecting Mrs. Olsen's work and attitude" and that there was "the possibility of unfortunate scenes which might affect Mrs. Olsen." He later admitted that her work was satisfactory but referred to "rumors that Mr. Olsen had been speaking to dining room employees" and "since they both share a one-room apartment, Mrs. Olsen probably also shares her husband's views."

UNION ASKS POLL
The Transport Workers Union has requested the University to agree to a poll of dining hall workers. In rejecting the proposal, Thomas A. McGoey, school business manager, said the University "does not believe that the dining halls are a proper place for union organization" and that "Columbia has been keeping up with the trend of the times without unions."

A TWU investigation revealed the existence of discrimination, speedup, intimidation and coercion of the workers, many of whom belong to the Spanish-speaking community.

John Cahill, organizer for TWU local 241, charged that since Mr. McGoey took over in 1950 the University has maintained a speedup that extends to residence halls and other buildings. The union says it will continue its efforts to organize all dining hall workers. In spite of threats by University officials, most workers have joined. A union meeting attended by 55 out of 85 cafeteria workers unanimously passed a resolution calling for the establishment of the union and stating that "we have good reason to believe John Jay cafeteria made a profit of \$25,000 or more over the previous fiscal year."

The Columbia Spectator has vigorously attacked the administration in its editorials. It accuses the officials of character defamation, and of assuming guilt by inference and guilt by association. It charges them with "dividing employees, setting one against the other for the gain of the employer," and a "view of the unions we thought had gone out

Campus Groups Back SWP Fight On Illinois Law

CHICAGO — "Law 1030 is an unwarranted and cynical restriction upon free political activity. If it is not found unconstitutional, it should be repealed," declared an editorial in the Torch, official campus newspaper at Roosevelt College, Chicago.

"You have probably never heard of law 1030," continued the editorial, "and may therefore wonder why Illinois citizens, including RC instructors and students should form committees against it. . . . You haven't heard of it because the state legislature passed it in virtual secrecy."

U.S. Rushing Toward War Says Dunne

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 29 — An attentive audience of workers and students heard V. R. Dunne speak on the topic, "Armaments, Taxes and Truman" at Socialist Workers Party headquarters tonight. American capitalism, with its insatiable appetite for markets and raw materials, is rushing headlong toward a "devastating explosion of imperialism," said Dunne.

The speaker drew a balance sheet of the armaments budget, the national debt and the Truman tax program to illustrate the real bankruptcy of American capitalism. "Truman has spent more money for armaments," said Dunne, "than all the presidents before him put together, including Roosevelt!"

"The capitalists find themselves in a blind alley," he said. "On the one hand they are pouring out billions for armaments. They have military outposts and air bases in every corner of the globe. But victory eludes their grasp. The Asian revolution, which they do not understand, has stayed their hand. The leaders of America don't know where they are going!" stated Dunne.

Several questions were asked of the speaker, and the discussion continued afterward during the social hour.

INTENT OF LAW

This law, signed by liberal Democratic Governor Stevenson, makes it a criminal offense for a citizen to petition outside his own county to place a new party on the state ballot. As stated in the Torch editorial, "The effect and probably the intent of the law is to restrict the ballot to the Democratic and Republican parties."

The Socialist Workers Party took the lead in the fight against this undemocratic law by filing a suit in Federal Court against Gov. Stevenson and leading law-enforcing officials of the state. It demands that the law be declared unconstitutional and that an injunction be issued to prevent its enforcement.

Publicity around the SWP's suit has destroyed the blackout with which the legislators and Gov. Stevenson attempted to surround the law.

COMMITTEES FORMED

The campus newspaper also announced on another page the formation of a "Campus Committee Against Law 1030" at Roosevelt College. This is the second collegiate group against the law to be formed, the first being at the University of Chicago. Both campus committees are soliciting support from the general student body and the faculty in the fight against this fascist-like law.

The Stalinist newspaper, the Worker, continues to talk around the question of the Illinois elections without mentioning the SWP suit which strikes at the heart of the question.

Women and Industry

By Louise Manning

Millions of working women, who are ground down by the double burden of job and family will welcome the proposal of Judge Sarah T. Hughes of Dallas, president of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, that the money used to pay for a housekeeper or for nursery care during working hours be deductible from taxable income.

Although the proposal is very timid and does not go far enough, it brings into the open a form of discrimination against women which either makes it impossible for them to work, or if they do

work, they do it at a great sacrifice and with small returns. The working mother is torn with worry about how she can pay for adequate care for her children, and earn enough to either support the family or help her husband who is also overworked and underpaid.

Unless women are needed for war production, as during World War II, capitalism has always pushed them back into the kitchen. This had the double purpose of making the women and children completely dependent on the man, and thereby making it more difficult for him to risk getting fired or going out on

strike for a little improvement in his standard of living.

Today there is no longer any choice for millions of women. Inflation has reduced the hard earned gains which the worker has made in many years of struggle on the picket line. It now takes two incomes to keep a family going.

The law does allow many deductions for expenses necessary to production of an income, such as the cost of operating a car used in a business, but it considers the expense of a baby sitter or day nursery as a personal matter, just as though the women had a choice.

It may be true that it is a personal matter to a woman to see that her family gets enough to eat, but when the same problem faces millions, and those millions get together to do something about it, it is no longer remains a personal matter, but becomes a social problem.

Tax deductions are not enough. It is necessary for the government to provide free, adequate nursery care for all children of working mothers, or pay for the expenses of a baby sitter.

Clarke Assails Witch Hunt At Meetings in Cleveland

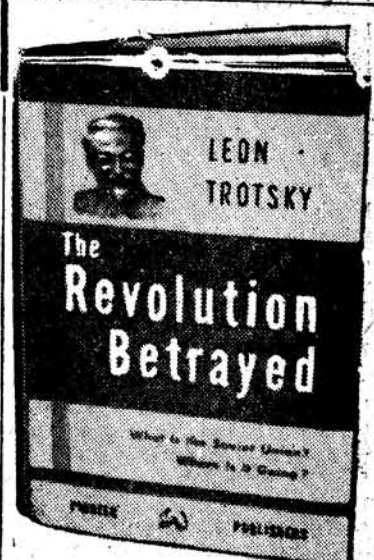
CLEVELAND, March 2 — Europeans viewing the witch-hunt over here think Americans have gone mad, George Clarke, editor of the Fourth International, told a student audience at Cleveland College Friday night.

Arriving in this city at the height of a newspaper campaign to make a hero out of local stoopid, John E. Janowitz, testifying in Washington before the Subversive Activities Control Board, Clarke found considerable interest in his first-hand report on how the European masses are lining up for the coming international showdown.

In France and the other countries of Western Europe, where the communist and socialist parties number millions of members, and where the Red Army is much closer, there is no hysteria, no witch-hunt, he pointed out. But here in Cleveland, thousands of miles and oceans removed from the scenes of revolutionary conflict, scare headlines last week announced: "900 REDS IN CITY. . ."

SPONSORED BY STUDENTS

The student group which sponsored Clarke's meeting on campus was itself the butt of attack by a witness before the Ohio Un-American Activities Commission last week, who labeled the Jefferson Forum a chapter of the Young Progressives which had changed its name. Not intimidated by the attack, members of the group remained to ask questions



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