

THE KENYAN'S FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

(See Page 3)

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XVII - No. 21

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, MAY 25, 1953

PRICE: 10 CENTS

Is U.S. Labor McCarthy Target After Attlee?

Senator McCarthy's poisonous attack on Clement Attlee, British Labor Party leader and former Prime Minister, is a warning to the American labor movement of the treatment it can expect from McCarthy if it fails to fight him aggressively and to come to the defense of his victims.

Congressmen Plan To Hike Own Pay \$10,000 a Year

The members of Congress plan to put the arm on the American people for \$10,000 annual salary increases. Such a raise has been approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee. A propaganda campaign is underway to quiet popular opposition in advance.

HOW THEY ARGUE

Capitalist newspapers are egging the Senators and Representatives on to vote themselves the huge salary hike. The N. Y. Times editorially expresses the "hope" that the Congressmen won't get "cold feet" and will holdily dip their collective fingers into the public till.

labor bureaucrats who have done their utmost to restrain the British workers from conducting a militant fight to the finish against capitalism. As Prime Minister, he defended colonialism, collaborated closely with Washington in waging the cold war against the Soviet Union and gave his blessing to U.S. intervention in Korea. Politically, he is a reformist ("Fabian Socialist"), but in his social outlook he is not much different from American labor leaders like Walter Reuther of the CIO or David Dubinsky of the AFL.

ATTLEE'S "CRIME"

Attlee points out that he was fighting communism before McCarthy was ever heard of. But that didn't stop McCarthy from letting go with both barrels in a full-scale red-baiting blast against Attlee. After this, anybody who claims that McCarthy's real target is "communism" will have to be classified as a hopeless ignoramus or an incorrigible liar.

Attlee, speaking in the House of Commons, mildly stated the opinion that the U.S. negotiators in Korea were holding up a cease-fire by making unreasonable demands after the Chinese had gone a long way to meet the conditions set down by the UN. He suggested that the delay might be due to the fact that there are Americans who "swear all-out war with China and against communism in general," and said he sometimes wondered who was more powerful, Eisenhower or McCarthy.

McCarthy's answer was to brand him as "Comrade Attlee." His "proof" of Attlee's "subversiveness" was to wave a photograph of Attlee saluting Republican troops in the Spanish Civil War in 1937, and a quotation in which Attlee referred to his fellow-Labor Party members as "comrades" (the traditional designation among European laborers).

changed in the South is the Negro. He has become more militant and better organized, especially in the political field. He knows that politics is a vital weapon in the fight against Jim Crow, and he is determined to make use of this weapon which the Southern ruling class has gone to great lengths to deny him.

In the North the politicians beg the Negro people to go to the polls. In the South it is the opposite: The white supremacist politicians have worked out a dozen different fraudulent tricks to keep Negroes away from the ballot box, and when these fail, they resort to intimidation and outright force and violence.

It takes real courage for a Negro to enter a polling booth in many parts of the South. Scores of Southern Negroes have been murdered in cold blood since the end of World War II because they dared to insist on their right to register. Voting is a democratic right, but like many democratic rights today it can often be exercised only at great personal risk. In a certain sense it can be said that Southern Negroes have had to act like revolutionaries before they could enjoy this particular democratic right.

GROWING DEFIANCE And that is what Southern Negroes have been doing in increasing numbers. In the face of threats and violence, they have been defying Jim Crow, registering and voting. A few statistics illustrate this dramatic story: In 1940 there were 150,000 Negroes registered to vote in eleven Southern states. In 1950 the number had risen to 828,000.

In 1948, according to the CIO Political Action Committee, approximately 750,000 Southern Negroes voted. In 1952, according to the recent annual joint report made by the American Jewish Congress and the NAACP, there were between 1,100,000 and 1,350,000 Negro voters in the South — an increase of over 50% in just four years.

The North Carolina and Atlanta victories were made possible by Negro political action above all. Of course this action in turn had an effect on some Southern whites too. Some were impressed favorably and were glad to see Negroes voting; some were unhappy about the new development, but were demoralized by the feeling that there was nothing they could do to stop it. (And naturally there are still many, with vested interests in saving the Jim Crow system, who are trying to prevent it from going any further.)

AFL, CIO Urge Bolivia Boycott End

Both the CIO and AFL asked the State Department last week to resume purchases of tin from Bolivia. The action was taken in response to an appeal from the General Confederation of Factory Workers of Bolivia.

Speaking for the CIO International Committee, Jacob S. Potofsky said that he had been informed in a communication from the Bolivian workers that "suspension of tin purchases... had resulted in an economic crisis which threatens actual starvation for workers."

He wrote John M. Cabot, Assistant Sec'y. of State for Inter-American Affairs urging an end to the U.S. boycott on Bolivian tin.

The AFL letter, also addressed to Mr. Cabot, was signed by AFL President George Meany. He said that 80% of the national budget of Bolivia depends on tin purchases and 55% of the food consumed there depends on revenues from sale of tin. He requested that purchase of tin be resumed so that the Bolivian government can meet its normal expenditures and promote a program of welfare activities for its people.

The State Department has boycotted Bolivian tin as a means of pressuring the Paz Estenssoro government into compensating the tin barons for their expropriated holdings. The Bolivian workers feel that the boycott is part of a Wall Street effort to crush their revolution.

They maintain that the tin barons have bled Bolivia for generations, reducing the country to such poverty that it is unable to meet their demand for further booty.

But the main initiative for the changing Southern political situation has come from the Negro people themselves. It is necessary to stress this factor very heavily because the situation has only begun to change, and Negroes are still a long way off from political equality in the South.

Wrong notions about the white population as a whole, along the line of Dr. Clement's remarks, can be very damaging at this point if they lead to any relaxation in Negro political activity and militancy. There is still a lot of fighting to be done, and anything that leads to relaxation on the part of the Negroes can be disastrous. The experience of the past has proved that the way for Negroes to get white allies is by showing their determination to fight for their just objectives — alone, if necessary. That is how

CHANGE ONLY BEGUN

Wanted to be going up the flue? Expressions of disgruntlement with the White House and Congress under GOP rule are being heard from key AFL figures who after Eisenhower's election had sought a "modus vivendi" with him.

AFL President George Meany, addressing the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union convention on May 19 in Chicago, voiced doubt that "we are getting or will get real leadership from the new administration in Washington." He pointed to the series of reactionary measures taken since the new administration took over, and said: "The business men now in power are on trial. They are being watched every day, not only by the representatives of organized labor but by the people as well."

He added that the AFL will "mobilize our full political strength for the elections next year," although he did not explain for whom they will be mobilized.

Meanwhile, Secretary of Labor Durkin, former head of the AFL Plumbers Union, is reported to be very unhappy in his role of labor window-dressing for Eisenhower's

(Continued on page 2)

Congress War-Mongers Try To Spread Far East Conflict



No Place for Tourists

HOSTILE DEMONSTRATIONS GREET DULLES IN TOUR OF MIDDLE EAST

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles' airplane tour through the Middle East, in which he is visiting 12 countries from Egypt to India and back to Lybia in 20 days, is being widely touted as a "listen and learn" journey. It is pretended that upon Dulles' return a new Middle East policy will be worked out based upon the information he will have gathered in this lightning junket.

The people in the Middle East met Dulles at many of his stops with "powerful demonstrations aimed at making this diplomatic representative of Wall Street 'stop, look and listen' if not 'learn.'"

They view Dulles' trip and the aims he represents with hostility. They understand that his trip is part of an effort to pressure and cajole the Middle East into a

Union Leaders Find It Hard To "Live With" GOP Regime

Hopes of some conservative union leaders, particularly of the American Federation of Labor, that they would be able to "live with" the new Republican administration appear to be going up the flue.

Millionaires Cabinet. Robert G. Spivak, N. Y. Post correspondent, wrote on May 15 that Durkin "may soon call it quits." Among other things, he was not permitted to testify before recent hearings on the Taft-Hartley law.

"When I walk into a room," Durkin is reported to have complained recently, "everybody stops talking."

This gives some idea of what a "bargain" the labor movement got when Eisenhower condescended to place a union man in the most inconsequential post in his cabinet.

Labor leaders like Meany whine and complain about how labor is getting it in the neck from the Big Business rulers in Washington, but they offer no proposal for effective political action to end Big Business control.

Instead of just bemoaning the way the reactionary capitalist politicians are treating them, these union leaders would do a thousand times more for labor if they set in motion the movement for an independent Labor Party that could mobilize the American people to drive the whole gang of Republican and Democratic free-booters out of power.

(Continued on page 2)

Recognition of China Is First Requirement For Peace in Asia

By Art Preis

If the Korean war is still draining the blood of American youth; if the U.S. military negotiators at Panmunjom haggle over every tiny point and raise new demands with each concession offered by the other side; if incitations and threats are hurled every day from the floors of Congress to whip up sentiment for an all-out war against China, it is because Wall Street is determined to restore capitalist domination over China's 450-million people.

America's financial and business rulers do not want to recognize the existing government of China, although it is a million times more representative of the Chinese people than the vile dictatorship of Chiang Kai-shek whom the Chinese threw off their backs and drove over the sea to his island hide-out of Formosa.

Diplomatic expediency and world-wide pressure may incline Eisenhower to some peace gestures and maneuvers and even to consider a possible temporary deal with the Kremlin. But up to now he and his administration have shown only hostility to the proposal for recognition of the New China government — the issue on which the question of peace in the Far East is most immediately hinged.

Eisenhower has treated with studied silence the fulminations and unbridled threats hurled by the Pacific Firestorm and China Lobbyists in Congress as soon as the question of recognition of the Chinese nation is raised in any form.

FRENZIED OUTBURSTS

In recent days, their war incitations have reached new peaks of frenzy. Their outbursts, played (Continued on page 3)



SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL, British Prime Minister announced May 21 that he will meet Eisenhower and French Premier at Bermuda in several weeks in talks preliminary to possible meeting with Moscow representative. French, who have been suspicious about being left out of big power parleys were particularly pleased at announcement.

BALTIMORE WITCH HUNT HITS UNITED WORLD FEDERALISTS

By David Stevens

Last week in Baltimore, Md., "security" police of the State attorney general, trained by intelligence agents of the U.S. Army, joined plainclothes detectives of the city police department in extending the relentless and unbridled hunt for "subversives" to the United World Federalists, an organization that is no more "communist" than the Democratic or Republican parties.

Commandeering the services of a news photographer and aided by a finger man who also serves on the city pick-pocket squad, a special agent "covered" a meeting of the United World Federalists of Maryland at the Lyric Theater.

Slouching about the outside of the theater and sitting unobtrusively at the side of the hall in the rear, the agents took down the license numbers of the guests' cars, the names of people in the audience and statements by the speakers. The photographer took flash pictures of the speakers on the stage.

What is new and alarming about this case can be seen when you examine the nature of the United World Federalists and the type of speakers that addressed its meeting.

Both Democrats and Republicans belong to the United World Federalists. It seeks world peace through establishment of a kind of super United Nations. It is sponsored and led by such nationally prominent figures as the governor of Michigan, G. Mennen Williams, the world-famous scientist Albert Einstein, Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, CIO President Walter Reuther, former U.S. Minister to Norway Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, Catholic editor Rev. Edward A. Conway, the dean of the Law School of Yale University Dr. Wesley Sturges, and J. D. Zellerbach,

Governor McKeldin of Maryland must have realized that his attorney general's department had gone too far too fast. In a statement published in The Sun, (Continued on page 4)





