

WILL EISENHOWER OFFER KREMLIN "PEACE" PACT?

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THE MILITANT

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Disguised Sales Tax Is Scheme Of Eisenhower

By Joseph Keller

Eisenhower is scheming to put over a general federal sales tax disguised as a manufacturers excise tax, he indicated Sept. 30.

It has been previously reported by the Times and other leading newspapers that Eisenhower was preparing to introduce into Congress a general sales tax bill.

Asides from avoiding the poison label, "sales tax," the type of manufacturers levy now contemplated by Eisenhower can be even more extortionate than a sales tax at the retail level.

The Administration and Congress are determined to shift still more of the tax burden onto the backs of the working people.

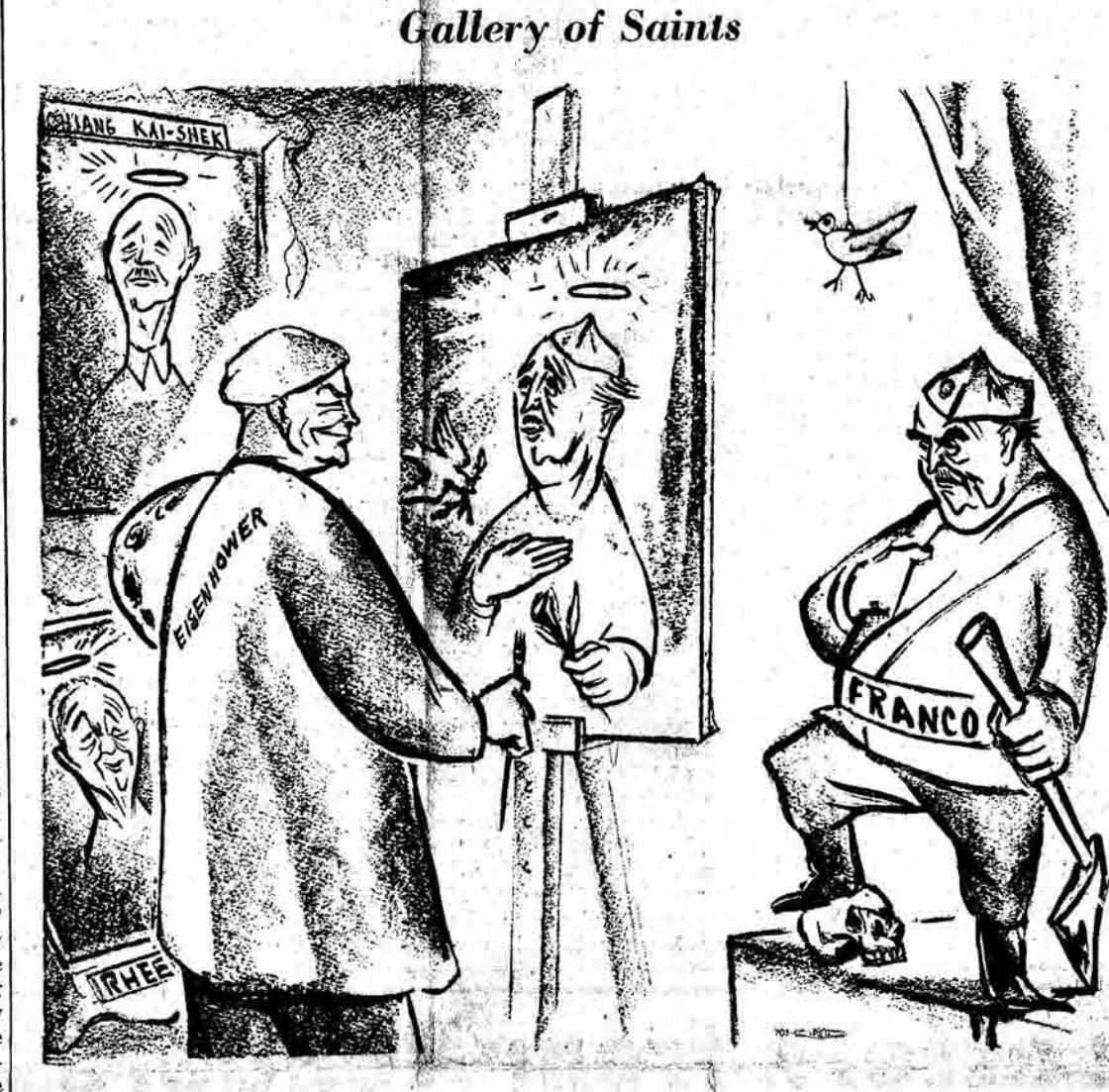
James Kutcher, the legless veteran, announced in an interview on Barry Gray's midnight program over New York radio station WMCA Oct. 5 that his attorneys would file suit next week in the Federal District Court at Washington to recover his job.

Kutcher Tells His Case to Barry Gray

James Kutcher, the legless veteran, announced in an interview on Barry Gray's midnight program over New York radio station WMCA Oct. 5 that his attorneys would file suit next week in the Federal District Court at Washington to recover his job.

Urged by Gray to tell the story of his case "in his own way," Kutcher simply but dramatically reviewed his efforts over the past five years to get justice.

Two weeks earlier, before interviewing David L. Weiss, SWP candidate for mayor, Barry Gray had read a smear letter from the station's vice-president noting that the SWP was on the Attorney General's blacklist.



Union Leaders Launch Campaign to Prepare For '54 Elections

By Art Preis

Labor leaders and unions have launched a highly vocal and energetic campaign in preparation for the 1954 Congressional elections.

Eliminating the reactionary Big Business control of Congress. It is inspired by two main fears: (1) The growing threat of layoffs, a federal sales tax and other economic blows at the American workers; (2) the continuation of the Taft-Hartley Act and its intensified use as part of a stepped-up drive to shackle and, if possible, crush the union movement.

Leading union newspapers and gatherings from all parts of the labor movement are vigorously stressing the need for labor political action to combat these two major threats.

At the Oil Workers convention, CIO Political Action Committee Director Jack Kroll emphasized political action for 1954 in connection with the approach of depression.

Labor's program for getting rid of T-H oppression must begin at the voting booths in next year's Congressional election,

San Francisco Candidates Get Warm Union Response

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 4 — Frank Barbaria and Frances James, Socialist Workers candidates for supervisors, met with a warm response last night when they appeared at meetings of locals of the Ship Scalers, Roofers, Sign Painters, Electricians and City Employees Unions.

At the Ship Scalers' meeting, Barbaria spoke against the war drive and the accompanying attack on the organized labor movement.

In the course of Wall Street's drive toward war, the Democrats and Republicans have instituted a witch-hunt drive against our civil rights," he declared.

The Socialist Workers candidate said that in office he would urge the unity of AFL, CIO and independent unions with minority-group organizations to strengthen the fight in defense of basic civil rights.

He took a firm stand against Jim Crow, declaring, "I am unalterably opposed to the policy of racial segregation in housing that is now practised by the City

New Front Opened in War On Constitutional Rights

A new attack on the 5th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States is being organized by Attorney General Herbert Brownell.

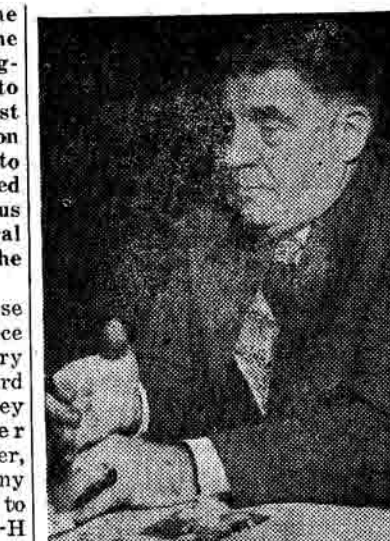
Brownell plans to persecute anyone who dares to exercise the freedom it provides. "We intend to press for action in every possible field" against those who refuse to testify before grand juries and investigating committees.

Witch-hunting investigations, harassing publicity, and efforts to deprive people of their livelihood will serve as pressure against use of the 5th Amendment.

Thus, the UMW organ wants the workers to take political action against Taft-Hartley, advises that they can expect no good from the Republicans, but proposed to rely on their own strength.

President Uses T-H Club on Longshoremens

NEW YORK, Oct. 7 — Some 50,000 striking members of the independent International Longshoremen's Union returned to their jobs today in 12 east coast ports at the orders of the union officers, who had hastily bowed to an anti-strike injunction issued yesterday under the infamous Taft-Hartley Act.



JOSEPH RYAN

This is Eisenhower's first use of the strikebreaking law since his inauguration last January and he will have to work hard to beat the record of Taft-Hartley injunctions established under Truman.

In recent years as the dock workers took matters into their own hands in an attempt to win decent wages and conditions. In this case, Ryan and his henchmen were forced to strike in order to give the impression that they are fighting for the dock workers, who are being courted by the AFL which expelled the ILA on the grounds of Ryan's failure to rid it of gangster elements.

Field Day for Witch Hunters In New York Public Schools

The New York public school system, like the rest of the educational system in America, is in a profound crisis.

School buildings are in a state of decay. Necessary repairs are neglected and enough new buildings to meet the increase in school population aren't even contemplated.

Teachers are no longer to be allowed to teach "according to their conscience," as in the past. If, in the opinion of a prejudiced Board of Regents, their lessons in arithmetic, spelling or any other subject contain advocacy of "force and violence" against the government, they will be dismissed.



DAVE BECK

crats, stuck tough. Ryan had to play militant or see his membership desert wholesale into the new AFL union.

EAST GERMANS RESIST STALINIST 'NEW COURSE'

By Murry Weiss

The decisions of the East German Stalinist Party's Central Committee meeting of Sept. 17-19 are beginning to come to light.

It was promulgated in the Soviet Union after Malenkov's accession but before the June 17 uprising.

The new course was the central point under consideration at the recent meeting. What is this new course? It was promulgated in the Soviet Union after Malenkov's accession but before the June 17 uprising.

Why did the East German workers launch a revolution against a regime which proposed such a program? If we disregard the Stalinist answer that the East German industrial workers were the tools of American capitalism and its fascist hirelings, or the equally absurd capitalist "theory" that the East German workers "were fighting and dying for us," (N. Y. Times June 18) we come to the inescapable conclusion: The conditions of the East German workers were intolerable and they had no faith whatsoever in the Stalinist new course. They



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Choice We Face -- Socialism or H-Bomb

Is the capitalist system going to last forever? That's what the paid propagandists of capitalism would have us believe. But why should this be so? Other systems came and went. We've had slavery, feudalism, Asiatic despotism; a long time ago we had primitive communism. All these systems of society were born, grew to maturity and then died. It's true that some of these societies didn't leave willingly. There was some scuffling. Tyrants tried to perpetuate a dying order and keep the privileges of the ruling few, but they were always vanquished in the end.

Why should things be different with capitalism? What's so special about capitalism that it should last forever? There are now tens of millions of people in the world who hate capitalism and are trying to destroy it. This is not due to socialist propaganda alone. When it comes to propaganda the capitalists spend more on that than the socialists could ever dream of doing. The tens of millions of people in every corner of the world who have become anti-capitalist did so as a result of bitter experience.

Let Labor Prepare

Summing up the prospects for the U.S. capitalist economy, the U.S. News and World Report of last Aug. 7 concluded: "The only place it has to go is down." Deprived of the narcotic stimulus of the Korean War, the American profit system has developed the jitters. Last week The Militant detailed many basic factors pointing to the possibility of a serious downturn. We cited lowered production schedules in key industries like steel, auto, lumber, construction, farm machinery; a sharp reduction in planned capital expansion; declining income of workers and farmers; rising unemployment and elimination of overtime pay.

CIO United Automobile Workers has projected a Conference on Unemployment in Washington on Dec. 6 and 7. The recent AFL convention went on record demanding a reduction of the work-week in industries covered by the Wage-Hour Law from 40 to 35 hours with no loss of take-home pay. Both these actions are very good, so far as they go, but they only nibble at the issue. What is required is a full mass mobilization of all organized labor in united action, on the economic and political fields, to fight from here on in for a rounded far-reaching program to protect the American working class from the ravages of depression. Such a mobilization can be best achieved through a United Congress of Labor, to be held at the very doorstep of Congress in Washington, of rank and file delegates from every local union in the land.

Some Questions About the Franco Deal

Despite the unanimous disapproval of the American trade-union movement, the overwhelming opposition of a majority of people in the United States, and the revulsion of the whole world labor and anti-fascist movement, the State Department has made a deal with the hated fascist dictator Generalissimo Francisco Franco. The public deal is bad enough. But obviously there is a secret deal as well. U.S. News and World Report of Oct. 9 says, "Questioners are told, unofficially, that important matters are covered in unpublished agreements."

ish anti-fascist refugees abroad and cooperate with Franco's terror against the anti-fascist underground? Is there a clause which defines what the State Department's attitude will be in the event of another general strike or uprising by Spanish labor? Does the deal provide for the use of American equipment by the Spanish fascists to break strikes and shoot down workers? Does the State Department regard Franco as the legitimate ruler of Spain despite the fact that the overwhelming majority of the Spanish people voted for a government which the fascists overthrew by force and violence with the help of Hitler and Mussolini? Will criticism of Franco in the United States now constitute a "subversive" act making the critic eligible for the Attorney General's black-list? Has Franco included in the secret deal provisions for the "screening" of all American personnel going to Spain with the aim of eliminating all those who have doubts about his "democratic" regime? And one last question: Would the State Department dare to submit its deal with Franco (the open or the secret edition) to a vote of the American people?

GM's Fable About the Bees

By Reba Aubrey

Bees have fascinated man since ancient times. Poets, philosophers, historians and naturalists have studied and written about them. Even Aristotle wrote a treatise on their ways. And now General Motors makes its modest contribution to the lore about these industrious insects. "We Can Learn A Lot From The Bees" is distributed as a public service by General Motors Information Rack Service to "General Motors Men and Women." When anything is "for free" from GM, even so much as an 11-page pamphlet, you can be sure it's aim is to point up the moral that what's good for General Motors is good for America.

Beekeeper?



C. E. WILSON, former Pres. General Motors, now Sec. of Defense in Eisenhower's cabinet, made headlines when he told Senate questioners, 'What's good for GM is good for the country.'

"After hatching, a worker bee serves a two-weeks apprenticeship, during which he does nothing but housework... carrying out dead bees, cleaning combs, feeding larvae and helping with the evaporation of honey... If he makes good, he can go out then and gather nectar. If not, he isn't just handed a pink slip, his hat and coat and shown to the door. He is executed right on the spot. There isn't any sentiment among insects." A sentimental "pink slip" from GM does seem preferable, of course, to being "executed right on the spot."

"But even so, his share... is not profit," according to General Motors. "He had to plow back part of his profits in the form of tools and equipment." In addition, he had the problem of "sale and distribution." Fortunately, "he sells about one ton of honey each year, and he's learned a lot from his bees," which brings us to the edifying moral hidden in the honeyed words of the pamphlet. Bees, we learn, "lead a pretty sensible life" and "seem to be born with the knowledge that they work best if they work together, from the queen, through the board of directors, on down the line." And just in case you're somewhat slow and still don't get the moral of it all, General Motors spells it out. This, we are told, is an "example of working together in harmony" that "man might well follow."

"The hive has on it been pointed out as the idea of socialistic endeavor where the individual brings the fruit of all her labor to a common storehouse and in turn takes enough to fill her needs," says Pellett. "Such government as prevails... is by common consent... with no individual direction." GM didn't mention that. They counted on their readers getting stung with the idea that capitalism is approved and practiced by the bees and that, like the relations in a beehive, all should be sweetness and harmony between management and workers in a GM plant.

get the conditions they want, they gather in a belligerent swarm, stage a walk-out on the owner; and in their amazingly intelligent way start up a new honey factory of their own, running it under management of the worker bees.) Mr. Camp met the threat of such an unpleasant occurrence by digging into "his reserve capital" and buying "more hives," which "was just about the end of his labor difficulties." Mr. Camp, as you can see, was a lot readier than most factory owners to meet the just demands of his workers. Mr. Camp didn't have to worry about hiring, firing or "job placement," because "bees do a pretty good job of policing their own activities." And anyway, "bees are born to their individual jobs." At this point the author probably spent a few minutes daydreaming about the possibilities of job-typing GM workers the way bees do. Feed some of the up-and-coming larvae special nectar and in 25 days get a batch of tool-and-die makers. Feed others on a coarser diet of pollen and honey and in only 21 days get production workers.

There are two alternatives: Take all the honey from the combs and let the bees die, or leave enough to keep them alive until more raw materials are available. This problem is "much simpler than that faced by other businesses." Mr. Camp generously chose to let his "employees" live. Keeping profits in mind, he left just enough honey for the bees to barely survive. And then, like relief for the unemployed, he "bought them a little extra sugar from time to time" to make sure he hadn't misjudged — a precaution that was certainly called for, looking at it from the bees' point of view, since the whole hive could have lived in luxury all winter — without punching a time-clock once — if they hadn't been robbed of their produce.

\$18,000 Fund Scoreboard

Table with 4 columns: Branch, Quota, Paid, Percent. Lists various cities like Philadelphia, Akron, Chicago, Buffalo, etc., with their respective financial contributions.

East Germans Resist Stalinist "New Course"

(Continued from page 1) rights of the citizens of our Republic are, however, not adequately used (!) in order to bring the state and administrative apparatus still closer (!) to the population; they are not used to release the initiative of the population for improving the work of the state organs." He stresses: "Strict observance of democratic law are vital components of the policy of the new course."

enthusiastic they are. All this is not exactly conducive to reconciliation between the workers and the bureaucrats. It is this relation between the despotic bureaucracy and the workers which prevents the new course from being anything more than a gesture. Every real concession the workers won was bought with blood and struggle. The workers know this and they have no confidence in bureaucratic promises to better their lot. As victims of the Stalinist old course they cannot see any basic difference in the new course. And they are right. WHAT IS THE SOLUTION? How then will East Germany solve its economic problems? A higher standard of living undoubtedly must be based on higher productivity. But the bureaucratic methods of achieving higher productivity lead to fierce resistance from the workers. Is the bureaucrat then the conscious representative of the socialist interests of the country and the worker a misled, atomized, complainer about his individual conditions? This is the picture the gentlemen of Monthly Review, an "independent" Stalinist publication, would have us believe.

Lay-Offs, T-H Threat Show Need For Labor Party

(Continued from page 1) Taft-Hartley. Wasn't it passed in 1947 with a majority of Democratic votes cast in its favor? Didn't Truman promise in 1948, when he needed labor's votes, to secure full repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act and didn't he renege within a month of his election and propose merely its amendment? And then didn't four years go by without his own Democratic-controlled Congress or himself doing anything even to amend the Act to make it slightly less savage against labor? As for depression, Truman in 1949 took no different attitude toward the five million unemployed than the Republicans take now to the threatened mass unemployment. Truman actually stated: "A certain amount of unemployment, say from three to five million, is supportable. It is a good thing that job-seeking should go on at all times; this is healthy for the economic body."

Eisenhower Uses T-H Club To Break Longshore Strike

(Continued from page 1) They have been openly collaborating with Gov. Dewey, and city and federal officials who have attacked the strike and called on the shipowners and stevedore companies not to grant the IILA demands. Beck and Hall have also offered cooperation to the recently appointed two-state Port Commission set up under federal law to impose state-controlled hiring halls, compulsory registration of dock workers with the aim of setting up an anti-union blacklist and other measures to regiment the longshoremen and prevent them from fighting for their rights and decent conditions. The longshoremen have the enormously difficult task of breaking through the swarm of enemies that are trying to keep them down and exploit them, including the capitalist politicians and government agencies, the union bureaucrats — both those now on their backs and those who want to climb onto their backs like Beck and Hall. The dock workers can achieve a decent, fighting, democratic union only by kicking out all the bureaucrats and taking charge of their union affairs themselves.

A special board of review cleared the Council for Social Action of the Congregational Christian Churches of "subversive" action Sept. 30. The reviewing committee found no evidence that the Council had been founded by persons who "thought our system of government was outmoded."

Newark Fri. Night Socialist Forum
presents a talk on The Soviet Union Under Malenkov
Speaker: John G. Wright
Friday, Oct. 16, at 8:30 at 52 Market Street

PHILADELPHIA Fri. Night Forum
presents a talk on "The Case of the Nine"
The prosecution of the nine Communist Party members. New precedents in the witch hunt.
Fri., Oct. 16, 8:30 P.M.
Militant Labor Hall
1303 West Girard Avenue
Questions, Discussion — Admission Free —

