

SWP Mich. Campaign Opens with Attack on Peril of McCarthyism

DETROIT, Aug. 16 — The election campaign of the Socialist Workers Party's in Michigan opened last Saturday with a rally at which the socialist candidates for Governor, U.S. Senator and Congressman presented a fighting program against unemployment, war, McCarthyism and Jim Crow.

Labor's stake in the fall elections was discussed by Frank Lovell, SWP candidate for Governor and a veteran unionist.

"At no time since the depression year of 1932 has there been more anxiety in this country," Lovell said. "The reasons for this are not hard to find. Unemployment is growing, speedup and layoffs are the order of the day in industry, the army continues to call up the youth of the nation and everywhere the witch hunt that aims to make this country a land of silent people continues."

"The only insurance working people have against the rising tide of reaction," Lovell continued, "is their own independent organized might. We are now engaged in a struggle for survival. That is why it is so urgent to organize now the forces that can smash native fascism and reorganize the whole of American economy for the liberation of mankind."

He against all forms of oppression and for the final liberation of humanity from this outlived and decaying capitalistic system."

Robert Himmel, running for Congress in the 1st Congressional District, sounded a note of warning to minority peoples on the rising fascist danger.

FASCIST DANGER

"Throughout the country," he noted, "anti-Negro and anti-labor demagogues are crawling out of their holes and linking themselves to the growing fascist movement embodied in McCarthyism. They are putting into practice a program of force and violence against the Negro people that will in time be directed against the entire organized labor movement."

"Instead of organizing a struggle against fascism, the leaders of the labor and Negro movements tie the workers and minority groups to the coat-tails of the Democratic and Republican parties of Big Business. They hamstring the struggle for Negro rights by limiting it to pleadings for justice in our courts of law. Not the courts, but the united action of working people of all races can effectively defeat fascism."

WHAT CAPITALISM OFFERS

Calling for the working class to "break decisively with the capitalist political parties, Rita Shaw, candidate for Senator, said:

"The parties of the capitalist class, the Republicans and Democrats, can offer us only the alternatives of starvation and a great depression or annihilation in atomic warfare. We working people must have our own solution which cannot rest upon the maintenance of the capitalist private profit system."

"The Socialist Workers Party is not a party which disappears the day after elections to reappear the next time we want votes. We fight a continuous bat-

Primary Trends Favor Democrats

By John F. Petrone

Will the Democrats win control of Congress in November? The Democratic leaders were more optimistic last spring than they are now. Then they were talking confidently of winning both houses, the lower house by a majority of 40 to 60 seats. Now they are reported to be uncertain about the Senate, and have reduced their claims for the House to a 20 seat majority.

Nevertheless, the trend over the last year has clearly been away from the Republicans and toward the Democrats. This trend was confirmed last November when the Democrats made important symptomatic gains in by-elections (Wisconsin, New Jersey) and the White House thought it necessary to initiate the Harry Dexter White smear of the Democrats to escape a by-election defeat in California.

The Democrats also figure they should benefit from this country's historic voting pattern, according to which the party in power usually loses strength in congressional contests where the presidency is not simultaneously at stake. Eisenhower's personal popularity pulled a number of GOP candidates into Congress in 1952, but his name won't be on the ballot this year.

PRIMARY TRENDS

Certain political trends can be traced by studying the 1954 primary elections, providing it is understood that these primaries give only part of the picture and do not automatically indicate which party will win in November.

More than three-quarters of the states have already held their primaries. Participation was normally low outside of the South, where the Democratic nomination is tantamount to election. There were some upsets, but they were few; most incumbents were renominated. The local party bosses retained control in most places; the national bosses remained behind the scenes, wisely avoiding the kind of rebuff Democratic chairman Mitchell got when California voters, disregarding his edicts, renominated Condon and nominated James Roosevelt for Congress.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

But where primary contests actually took place, there were some new developments. First and most strikingly, in respect to McCarthyism:

It would be wrong to think that nationally McCarthyism has lost significant electoral ground because of such well-publicized events as J. Parnell Thomas' unsuccessful bid to regain a congressional seat from New Jersey, Jack Tenney's loss of his State Senate post in California and Robert L. Jones' defeat in the Maine Senate primary.

For one thing, while the Thomas debacle attracted a lot of attention, little notice was taken of the fact that in another part of New Jersey another McCarthyite, T. James Tumulty, had no difficulty in winning a

Democrat Big Shots Meet



Former Pres. Truman, Adlai Stevenson (left), 1952 presidential candidate, and Democratic National Committee chairman Stephen Mitchell (right) shown after their conference in Independence, Mo., where they discussed plans for the recapture of Congress next November. Congressional Democrats are trying to outdo Republicans in pushing police-state legislation.

Democratic congressional nomination.

More important the McCarthyites already in Congress, with virtually no exception, easily won re-nomination in the primaries, often without opposition.

Yet a new element entered the picture—namely, signs that McCarthyite smear attacks, which proved so annihilating in 1950 and 1952, are beginning to lose some of their effectiveness in defeating candidates, at least in primaries.

KEFAUVER WINS

The clearest example was provided by the Democratic Tennessee primary in August. In 1950 the McCarthyite red-baiting technique, well-organized and well-financed, was used in the primaries to finish the political careers of two Southern Democratic liberals, Graham of North Carolina and Pepper of Florida. (Southern liberals, it is understood, stand to the right of their Northern brothers.) Lucas of Illinois, Tydings of Maryland, and Benton of Connecticut were similarly retired from the Senate, but in general not primary elections.

The same kind of campaign was carefully mapped out this year to remove the liberal Estes Kefauver from the Senate. McCarthy's oil friends poured big money into the state. Managers of the anti-Pepper and anti-Graham campaigns were recruited to direct the campaign of Rep. Sutton. Kefauver was accused of being a "left winger," a "colluder of communists," and an "internationalist" who was opposed to "the American way of life."

On the Republican side, the humiliating defeat of Robert L. Jones by Margaret Chase Smith in the Maine primary also can be listed as evidence that smears have lost some of their potency

whose "liberalism" is hailed by the Stalinist Daily Worker, also overcame machine opposition to win the gubernatorial nomination.

In general the more conservative candidates in Democratic primaries appeared to be running into difficulties where there was a serious contest.

Sen. McClellan barely managed to win the Arkansas nomination for the U.S. Senate from his Fair Deal opponent, McMath. The timing of the primary may well have been the decisive factor in the outcome. If the primary had been held a few months earlier, before rather than after the Army-McCarthy TV hearings where the conservative McClellan cast himself in the role of a staunch anti-McCarthyite, the liberal McMath might have won.

In the Texas primary the division was not so much between conservatives and liberals as between Dixiecrats and "loyalist" Democrats. Gov. Shivers, who crossed party lines to back Eisenhower in 1952, beat the regular Democrat, Yarborough, by two-to-one in the primary that year.

But this year, although Shivers led Yarborough by a narrow margin, he was unable to get a majority, and was forced into a runoff which will be held on Aug. 28. "Loyalist" Democrats like Lyndon Johnson and Sam Rayburn, who are conservative like Shivers but stuck to the party ticket in 1952, were renominated without difficulty.

DEMOCRATS BENEFIT

The Texas primary shows a clear trend toward the Democrats. The Oklahoma gubernatorial and senatorial primaries mark a strengthening of liberal tendencies. The rejection of extreme Negro-baiting in North Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee also point to the growth of liberal sentiments among Democratic voters. If these trends per-

in ousting well-entrenched officeholders.

RACISM WEAKER

A second trend expressed by the primaries was the reduced response that all-out, rabid Negro-baiting evoked in some states. The Kefauver victory was only one example.

Another was the North Carolina Democratic primary, where former Gov. Scott, a Fair Dealer, opposed the incumbent Senator Lennon, a conservative. The reactionary forces in control of the party machine set out to give Scott the same treatment that had worked so well in this state against Graham, whom Scott himself had appointed to the Senate.

This time they put even more emphasis on the Negro issue than in 1950, especially after the Supreme Court handed down its decision against school segregation 12 days before the primary. Being a Southern liberal, Scott naturally did not defend the decision; in fact, he denounced it, though more mildly than Lennon, and tried to have it dismissed as an issue in that campaign. Three days before the voting the Lennon forces issued among white voters a vast number of leaflets calling on Negroes to vote for Scott for having "aided our cause of non-segregation."

Leaflets of this kind had ruined Graham. But more white voters saw through the trick this time, and Scott was nominated without a runoff.

It was essentially the same story in Alabama. Sen. Sparkman, whom it is hard to call a liberal even by Southern standards, was opposed by candidates who were more openly anti-Negro in their election propaganda, but won renomination in the primary. James Folsom,

CAN LOSE ADVANTAGES

Will the Democrats reap the benefits of this shift in the general electorate? That depends on how they handle the McCarthyism issue in the campaign. If they go through with their present announced intention of ignoring it, as reported in last week's Militant, they can lose their advantages altogether. Candidates like Taylor in Idaho, who is opposed by the 100% McCarthyite, Dworshak, will surely go down to defeat if they don't raise the McCarthy issue aggressively.

In summary, we would say that on the whole the primaries confirm other signs of a shift to the Democrats, but it is too early to say that the shift will grow into a sweep that will give them control of Congress in November.

... Eisenhower Report

(Continued from page 1)

bling from long idleness. Buildings have been torn down for the lumber. Most of the people have moved away in search of jobs."

Nothing of this present picture seeps into Eisenhower's report. He does concede that there has been a "rather minor decline," sardonically "halted," that "affected seriously some industries, communities and groups..." Among the seriously affected economic categories are "factory employment, particularly in the durable goods industries and "agricultural prices and incomes." In short, just the workers and farmers have been "seriously affected" by this "rather minor decline," already "halted."

The Eisenhower school of economics adds this up, as his report puts it, to "a period of great prosperity" and, indeed "a time when economic miracles were being wrought." How an 8.1% decline in manufacturing and mining output and the "adverse effects of shrinking export markets and unbalanced production" on farm incomes constitute an "economic miracle" is explained by Eisenhower in terms of the decline in military expenditures. American capitalism under the Republican administration, he says, wrought a "miracle" because it "halted" the decline despite "the difficulties of shifting

... Adopt Political Liberties Ban

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But the Senate, on the existence of the Democrats, reaffirmed and even made more sweeping the criminal offense clauses. The Wall Street Journal, Aug. 19, says these new amendments, "sponsored by the liberals" were borrowed from a proposal first drawn up by Rep. Martin Dies of Texas."

The bill was then passed in the Senate 85 to 1 and sent to the House where it passed 208 to 100. According to the latest reports, the legal difficulties raised by the administration are being ironed out in an attempt to avoid a veto.

ADMIT IT'S ANTI-LABOR

In the debate on the Butler bill Senator Lehman said it would "constitute an extremely serious threat to the great organized labor movement in this country... The bill would place in the hands of an Attorney General who might be antagonistic to labor, a powerful weapon to cripple labor, to break strikes."

Yet Lehman and the others voted for the measure a few hours later when it was tacked on to the bill to outlaw the Communist Party.

For the last few years the liberals have been sounding off on how they have fought all measures to outlaw the Communist Party because that would be thought control. Yet they proposed this very measure themselves and steamrollered it through Congress shouting all the McCarthyite arguments and slogans.

How did all this happen? The answer is brutally simple. The liberal Democrats, charged by the McCarthyites with "treason" and "softness" toward the "red menace" buckled and decided to escape the whip of McCarthyism in the 1954 elections by playing

...New H-Bomb Horror

(Continued from page 1)

Alsops. But they have kept their mouths shut. Dr. Teller even denounced Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, leading A-bomb scientist, as a "Soviet agent," because the latter initially opposed making the H-bomb, warning of its frightful potential. Even Oppenheimer, who was dismissed by the AEC, although declared "loyal," could not envision the real scope of the H-bomb's deadliness.

One of the new bombs—in contrast to the original hydrogen-bomb device set off in Nov. 1952—"would not merely consume the city of Washington in its blast and heat," the Alsops point out. "It would also cover a surrounding area about the size of the state of Maryland with dangerously radioactive matter." Maryland is 200 miles long and 120 miles wide.

But that's not the ultimate range of these bombs. Carried by swift winds or ocean currents the pulverized radioactive earth lifted by an H-bomb can travel hundreds and even thousands of miles.

The Alsops report that the cloud from one of the Nevada A-bombs fell out over Long Island, "but it was no longer noxious and no one knew about it but the Atomic Energy Commission." Can they say how far and in what direction noxious particles from an H-bomb will travel?

MILITANT'S WARNING

Last April 5, the Militant warned of the "world catastrophic nature of the new H-bombs." Our articles gave the most complete description to date of the true nature of the H-bomb's power. By piecing together bits of information from the capitalist press, the Militant reconstructed what had really happened at Bikini. We pointed out the unexpected factor of the tremendously enlarged range of deadly radioactivity created by the new bomb.

At the same time, we charged that the Administration was creating a diversion by suddenly issuing a report on what we called the "obsolete" H-bomb exploded 16 months before. We noted that in all the government statements, including those by Eisenhower and AEC Chairman Strauss, "what we have been told officially is still not about the latest bomb... but about the 'baby' H-bomb device!..."

CHURCHILL'S CHANGE

The April 4 Militant put special stress on "the grotesque spectacle of Prime Minister Winston Churchill blubbering before the House of Commons on March 23, when he spoke of the 'stupendous problems and perils' of the new H-bomb exploded by the U.S. ... We added: 'This vilest and most cold-blooded leader of the

Seattle Trotsky Memorial Meeting

Speaker: Clara Kaye

Thurs., Aug. 26, 8 P.M.

201 Maynard Bldg. 1st Ave. So. & Washington

Terror in Guatemala

In Guatemala "non-communist workers known for, or suspected of, strong trade union feelings have been, and are being, fired by the score..." It is estimated that between 5,000 and 8,000 people have been thrown in jail," reports CIO official Daniel Benedict on returning from Guatemala (Aug. 16 CIO News).

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