

VOTE THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY TICKET ON NOV. 2

Build a Labor Party Now!

# THE MILITANT

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267

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## McCarthy Is Set To Fix Blame on GOP for Defeats

By L. P. Wheeler

The disgust of millions of workers and farmers with the "accomplishments" of the Eisenhower administration is being exploited for all it is worth by the Democratic Party vote-catching machine. Working people feel they have no real choice between the two parties of Big Business. But in the absence of a Labor Party they try desperately to express their discontent by swinging from one boss party to another. This out-of-the-frying-pan-into-the-fire movement is fostered above all by the labor officials who have long stood in the way

of the formation of an independent Labor Party. Now it appears that the pent up rage of the American people with "localized depressions," mass unemployment, slashes in farm income, witch hunting, union busting, war mongering and the threat of atomic destruction, is taking the form of a swing to the Democratic Party.

AS MAINE GOES

The Sept. 14 election in Maine showed this swing unmistakably. For the first time in 20 years a Democrat was elected Governor. The Republicans say this was due to "local circumstances." They alibi that the Republican incumbent, Burton Cross, was unpopular. This lame explanation is refuted by the sharp increase of Democratic votes in the same election in the races for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. Even the "popular" Republican Senator, Margaret Chase Smith, suffered a 12% decline in her vote since the last election. On the whole, the Maine Democrats increased their percentage sufficiently to throw a big scare into the Republican high command. The

(Continued on page 2)

For Freedom



Placard-bearing picket near federal court house in New York, where 16 Puerto Rican Nationalists are on trial under the Smith Act charged with conspiring to overthrow the U. S. government by force and violence, is ordered to "move on" by a policeman. The placard tells what Puerto Rican people want.

## Poultry Workers In Texas Fight Boss Terrorism

Violence continues to mark the four-month-old strike against the Denison Poultry Co. and the Eastex Poultry Co. in Center, Texas, by members of the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen.

As reported earlier in this paper, an attempt was made on the life of the international representative in charge of the strike, Allen Williams, when the motel cabin in which he was living was bombed in July. Williams fortunately was not in the cabin at the time of the bombing, which also destroyed his automobile and two cabins near his.

Within the last few days, the union reports, two Negro pickets were beaten by Texas rangers. In addition, a barn on the property of a striker was burned to the ground.

The strikers are demanding a union agreement enforcing decent wages and working conditions. They are also demanding that the "shipments of diseased poultry to an unsuspecting buying public" be stopped. The international union is carrying on a campaign to secure federal inspection of poultry similar to the practice in the meat industry.

(See page 3 for expose of poultry industry.)

# Square D Strike Showdown Looms as Challenge to Labor

## Labor Majority Backs A Shorter Work Week

For years The Militant has been advocating the program of the shorter work week with no reduction in weekly take-home pay as the most immediately effective answer to mass unemployment. This program has now been adopted by the largest section of organized labor and has become a red-hot issue throughout the union movement.

At the American Federation of Labor convention, which opened Sept. 20 in Los Angeles, the AFL Executive Council proposed a campaign for a federal law to reduce the legal work-week from 40 to 35 hours, with the

employers required to pay time and one-half for all work over 35 hours a week. The AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union in the past year has signed a number of contracts with the 35-hour clause and increases of hourly pay rates to maintain weekly incomes at previous levels.

One of the AFL's largest affiliates, the 625,000-member International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, adopted at its recent Chicago convention an even stronger version of the shorter work week program as its bargaining goal for 1955.

The IBEW delegates called on its member locals to seek in forthcoming negotiations the 30-hour week, stating that employers could "cut the work week without cutting . . . weekly pay."

A DISCORDANT NOTE

The single major discordant note on the issue of the shorter work week is being struck by CIO President Walter Reuther, although important locals of the United Automobile Workers, which he also heads, have been campaigning for the 30-hour week at 40 hours' pay. The giant Ford Local 600 and several General Motors locals are officially on record for the shorter work week.

Reuther, however, has gone out of his way to misrepresent the objectives of the shorter work week and to present false arguments against it. He has done this to put in a better light his own peculiar program for the "guaranteed annual wage" which he represents as the best and only answer on the problem of unemployment.

Reuther took an underhanded swipe at the campaign for the shorter work week under guise of being for it "in principle." At the Boston convention of the United Rubber Workers, Reuther attacked the shorter work-day—six-hour day, five-day week—and said he was for the eight-hour day, four-day week. But he claimed the workers should seek this only to "achieve more leisure time to enjoy benefits they have won, not because they are desperately trying to create more jobs in a declining economy."

MORE JOBS NEEDED

We recall that the biggest fight and the biggest gain in winning a shorter work week in modern times came in the late Thirties, precisely when millions were unemployed and already had "leisure" time. They wanted jobs. And they fought to win them by cutting the work-week from 48 and more hours, at standard time, to 40 hours by law.

We have the strong suspicion that Reuther plans to get his "guaranteed annual wage" next year by making big concessions to the corporations. Among these may be another five-year contract, which will tie the union's hands for a long period. Meanwhile, there are already 250,000 auto workers out of jobs. What will the guaranteed annual wage do to restore their employment? The shorter work-week will give at least a partial and temporary solution, while Reuther offers none at all.

## Kutcher Defense Rally Hears Warren Billings

By R. Gale

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 14 — Warren K. Billings, co-defendant with Tom Mooney in the famous World War I frameup case, was one of the principal speakers at the

meeting held in defense of James Kutcher last Saturday by the Kutcher Civil Rights Committee.

Billings, who spent decades in prison for his militant labor activity, told how he had been fighting for civil liberties all his life. "Civil liberties is not something that you can fight for once in a while," he said. "It is something you have to fight for all the time. I have been fighting as long as I can remember and expect to continue as long as I live."

He also noted that lately he has not been speaking as much as he did in the past "because meetings of this kind are all too few these days — not because there are no civil liberties cases, but because of fear."

Another speaker was the civil liberties attorney, George Olshausen, who explained the threat of the "subversive" blacklist to all Americans:

"NO ONE IS SAFE"

"No one is safe today because this list is designed not only to make any past associations you may have had suspect, but also to keep you from joining any new organizations that may spring up. No one can guarantee that the organization you belong to today, which is not on the list, will not show up on it tomorrow. One of the major aims of the list is to intimidate the people and prevent them from protesting against government persecution."

Laurent Frantz, legal research scholar, student of constitution-

# "Sick" Industries -- A National Epidemic

By Joseph Keller

Mass unemployment, hunger and general misery in the coal mining areas give a preview of what a major depression will mean for the American working class as a whole. Gov. William Marland said recently: "Here in West Virginia we've gone right back to the Thirties."

Commenting on Gov. Marland's statement, Stewart Alsop reported from West Virginia in his Sept. 3 syndicated column that "employment in the mines is lower than in the depths of the depression." In the last two years "the number of indigent persons certified for free surplus food has risen in West Virginia from 12,000 to 160,000." Between 40,000 and 50,000 miners in the state are jobless and many thousands are working only two or three days a week.

Alsop predicts that "what is happening here is a pale foretaste of the bitterness which would engulf the country, des-

troying the President's capacity to lead, perhaps even tearing apart the fabric of the American political system, if another economic depression were allowed to happen. This is the warning of West Virginia."

It has become customary to refer to coal as a "sick industry," implying the existence of special conditions that find no parallel in other industries. Coal mining, however, merely suffers an extreme form of a sickness that is prevalent—epidemic, in fact—through the entire productive system of the United States.

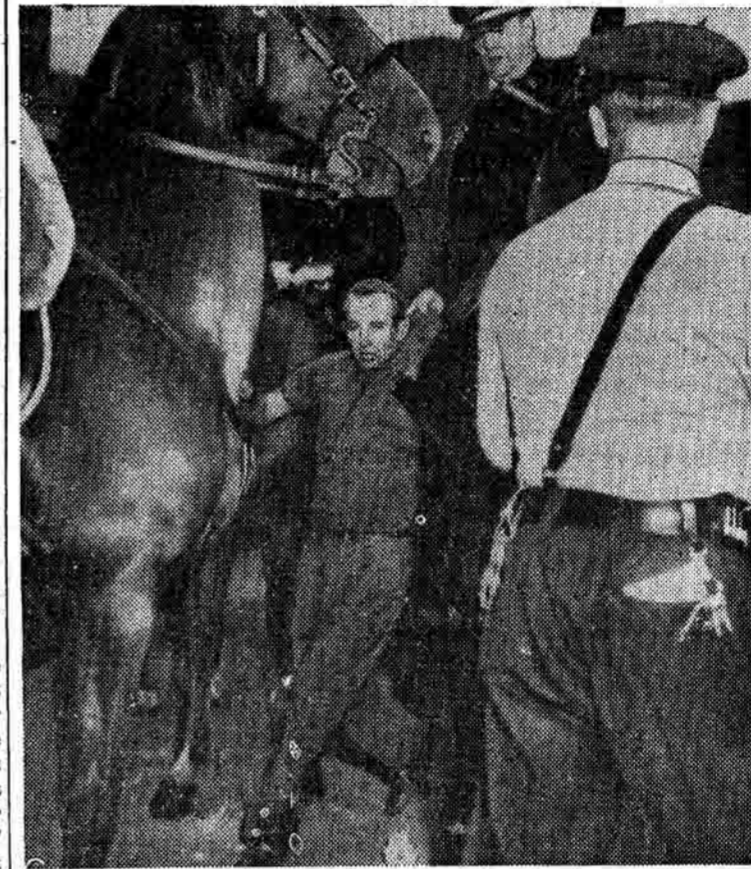
John W. Love, business commentator of the Cleveland Press, suggested some further "sick" industries. "Those economists who have been looking closest at employment wonder whether all industries can be expected to take back the workers they had in 1953. Sick spots appear in the pattern. Coal mining is sour, farm machinery waits for farmers' incomes to rise substantial-

ly, and railroads are well equipped. The "sickness" in agriculture directly affects more than five million farmers and farm laborers, plus their families. This has wiped out the jobs of many thousands of workers in the farm equipment industry, which was the first manufacturing field to feel the economic decline last year.

But do other, and presumably more "healthy," industries give a much better picture of vigor and well-being? Steel, that most basic of industries, is operating somewhere in the neighborhood of only 66% of capacity. About 10 months ago, when the industry observed "Dave McDonald Day" in honor of the CIO United Steel Workers President, steel company officials predicted that the industry this year would be operating at an average of 80 to 85% of capacity.

But even with steel produc-

## Detroit Police Strikebreaking



Mounted cops remove a picket from struck Square D plant in Detroit. Police violence and scabbering aroused the CIO United Automobile Workers members to swell the picketlines of the striking United Electrical Workers, independent. See story in next column.

## All Unions Threatened In Detroit

DETROIT, Sept. 23 — A showdown fight between the bosses and the organized labor movement here is rapidly shaping up around the Square D strike. Employers and unions from coast-to-coast are watching the progress of the struggle.

Last night Circuit Judge Frank B. Ferguson, who issued an injunction against mass picketing by the embattled independent United Electrical Workers Local 957, slapped another injunction on the CIO United Automobile Workers and all other organizations and individuals interested in the strike, restraining them from engaging in mass picketing.

This was taken here to signify a formal declaration of war against the entire Detroit labor movement, including both AFL and CIO unions who have rallied to the aid of the 1,200 Square D workers.

The new injunction was accompanied by a query from the judge to Gov. Williams on the possibility of using state police to reinforce the local club-swinging cops.

In addition, the judge invoked Michigan's riot act, thus giving legal sanction to possible use of violence by the police against the pickets.

These moves by Judge Ferguson abruptly reversed the role he assumed after powerful union locals sent Flying Squadrons to aid the Square D strikers. For a few days he tried to appear as an impartial arbiter and sought a few minor concessions from the company to match the major ones already granted by United Electrical Workers. Now he has taken off the velvet gloves.

His actions were coordinated with a new attempt by the police, the press, and government officials to renew and step up the red-baiting that has marked this strike from the first.

BEGIN NEW ARRESTS

Day before yesterday police resumed making arrests. They swooped down on a carload of pickets allegedly trailing would-be scabs who had responded to Square D advertisements calling for strikebreakers.

The five pickets were listed by the papers as Allen Stewart, Victor Alther, James Petroff, David Handel and Fred Halsted. The police claim that they found two suitcases, or two bushel baskets (depending on which paper you read) in the car loaded with "communist" literature. They also said they found a 22-caliber pellet gun along with the literature, and a "Molotov cocktail bomb."

James Petroff was first said to have been carrying a "Russian passport." This was later amended to a Yugoslav passport and then to a Yugoslav "work permit."

All five were charged with attempted armed robbery and carrying concealed weapons. They have been held without bail since their arrest and the papers report that they are to be questioned by the Detroit "loyalty" squad.

SMELLS LIKE FRAME-UP

To seasoned union militants this smells like the raw frame-ups of the Thirties when the bosses were doing everything possible to block organization of the basic industries.

Yesterday more arrests were made. This time the police took Paul Silver, president of UAW-CIO Local 351, holding him for investigation of felonious assault. They alleged he had a rock in his hand and made a menacing move toward a strike-breaker.

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## LUMBER STRIKE ENDED; AFL BREAKS UNITY PACT

By Ann Martin

SEATTLE, Sept. 12—Three days ago 100,000 Pacific Northwest lumber workers returned to work after a bitterly fought 80-day strike which opened with a joint

AFL-CIO strike pact. The strike was broken by the intervention of Governors Arthur B. Langlie of Washington and Paul Patterson of Oregon, who appointed a 90-day "fact-finding" and "mediating" committee to sit in judgment on the union's 12½ cents increase demand.

The leaders of the AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union, representing 66,000 workers, snapped at the mediation bait and broke the unity of the strike front by calling for a return to work before the CIO International Woodworkers of America, representing 35,000 workers, were consulted. The CIO was thereby forced to call off the strike and the rout was complete.

What the lumber operators couldn't accomplish with months of union-busting "back-to-work" tactics was finally achieved by the government strike-breaking machinery.

The united strike action of the AFL and CIO lumber unions

confronted the lumber operators with a unified strike action for the first time in 17 years. The strike could have been a demonstration to the whole national labor movement of what militant and united action could accomplish.

But the capitulation of the AFL officials to the pressure of the bosses' government prevented such an outcome.

PRETEXT  
The AFL leaders called for a vote to end the strike on the pretext that it was already being broken by scabs in the smaller mills. This argument was an attempt to demoralize the AFL rank and file in order to give the union officials a free hand to break AFL-CIO strike unity. Actually the back-to-work movements launched by the companies were for the most part unsuccessful. They affected a few fringe situations but never

(Continued on page 2)

ly rates they are not rich." Passing over the "not rich" as the understatement of the year, we note how the steel bosses have the industry geared to keep their profits rolling in with production curtailed 30%.

In that other key industry, auto, it is sufficient to report that production for the week ending Sept. 18 dropped to the lowest point since Nov. 1953 and 14% below the Labor Day holiday-shortened week, the previous weekly low for the year. That's not exactly bouncing health.

When you examine the figures on industrial production as a whole during August and early September, the economic diagnosis is, as the Sept. 19 "Financial Week" column of the N.Y. Times observed, "disappointing." Output has continued at a "stable" 10% below a year ago. It would seem that whatever the coal industry has, it's catching. Its name is "private profititis."

Is McCarthy Another Hitler?

By Murry Weiss

Is there a valid analogy between McCarthy and Hitler? We were the first to say there was...

The trouble with the debate between the ex-radical Will Herberg (New Republic, Aug. 23) and those he attacks...

Last week I listed seven of the arguments Herberg cited in favor of the Hitler-McCarthy parallel...

Sen. Flanders (R-Vt.) contended that McCarthy, like Hitler, is setting up his "private police force and spy system..."

"McCarthy, as far as I know, does not yet possess a private army or police force, as did Hitler in his rise to power..."

Thus the "private army or police force" is taken care of by a mere wave of the hand. Herberg doesn't see it. Presto! It doesn't exist.

Does McCarthy have a private police force? How else can we describe the "investigators" who work for McCarthy's committee?

Who are these picture croppers, document fixers, forgers, keepers of the blackmail files, and second-story men?

It is a publicly recorded fact that in addition to the staff of the McCarthy Committee working on the Senate payroll...

But this is different from what Hitler had, Herberg may argue. Hitler didn't have the cover of the German parliament to build his private police force.

For only \$1.25 you can get a one-year subscription to the Marxist quarterly, Fourth International, 116 University Pl., New York 3, N. Y.

The Scab as a "Hero" Mayhew Files Suit to Secure Ballot Rights

By Joseph Keller

We can learn much about a society by studying its heroes. In past ages, as in ancient Greece, the hero was often a mythical god endowed with special powers or virtues...

gally." And he maintained the Weimar constitution as a useful legal fiction.

FASCIST SPY NET Does McCarthy's spy net have a fascist character? Herberg doesn't think so. He is blind to the meaning of this spy net...

McCarthy's appeal for informants in the military and government agencies, repeatedly and publicly proclaimed, is not the same thing as the inter-office gossip and information exchange maintained by run-of-the-mill capitalist politicians...

Thus: McCarthy's charge of "20... or 21 years of treason" against the Democrats and the Eisenhower administration...

McCarthy exploits the growing alarm and bitterness of the American middle class over the world-wide defeats of American imperialism.

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The treason charge, built on the model of Hitler's stab-in-the-back myth, motivates McCarthy's drive to build a mass movement...

McCarthy receives financial support from the Texas oil barons. Herberg: "Even more ludicrous is the indictment of McCarthy as a Hitler because he receives financial support from wealthy businessmen..."

McCarthy AND HITLER Instead of seeing the various traits and symptoms of McCarthyism against the background of its political role, Herberg separates each "feature" and flicks them out of his way.

McCarthy exploits the "Communist menace" just as Hitler did. Herberg replies: "If 'exploiting' the issue of Communism makes one a Hitler because Hitler exploited the issue of Communism and on it rode to power, then McCarthy is not the only 'Hitler' in American politics."

Herberg doesn't stop to think that by this kind of jugglery he could prove that Hitler wasn't a fascist.

HITLER AND FRANCO The McCarthyite fascist menace must not be measured by the incidental ups and downs of its voting strength.

The American fascists will also refuse to accept the verdict of a majority of the electorate. But even more important, instead of prattling nonsense about McCarthy's "finish," the leaders of the workers organizations should be sounding the

of today has given us a new type of hero, unique in history. Creatures formerly detested by ruler and ruled alike are held up as heroes, to be honored and rewarded and, above all, emulated by the people.

We have discussed several times recently the heroic buildup given to paid stoopigeons who have testified against "Communists" in the McCarthyite inquisitions...

Scabbing? What a nasty word to apply to sterling "patriots" who claim "we're working to make Square D a good place to work — an AMERICAN plant..."

Here is a formula for elevating the vilest of all crimes, scabbing, to the noblest of professions. You can now steal the bread from the mouths of honest workers' families, take strikers' jobs,

work hand-in-glove with the bosses and police against the union, but you won't be scabbing. No, you'll only be defending your country against "Communism."

CHICAGO, Sept. 13 — Howard Mayhew, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress from the 2nd District, filed suit today in the Cook County Circuit Court to compel the Election Commission...

The Socialist Workers candidate was arbitrarily barred from the ballot Aug. 27 when the Board of Election ruled his petition invalid for "insufficiency."

Commenting on the case, Mr. Marks said: "The American Civil Liberties Union takes the position that it is not interested in who the candidate is, or what the political principles involved are..."

"The right of the voter to choose, however, is taken away or seriously curtailed when a place on the ballot is arbitrarily denied. The problem of the open as against the limited ballot runs to the very nature of the State."

"The Board should restrict itself to the questions of whether the candidate has properly filed his petition, and leave questions of 'desirability' to the voters. It



HOWARD MAYHEW, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in the Illinois 2nd District who was ruled off the ballot by biased election officials, is receiving American Civil Liberties Union aid in appealing for his ballot rights.

Baited by McCarthy



Brig. Gen. Ralph Zwicker (right), former commander at Camp Kilmer, N. J., shown with aide at a session of special Senate Committee in Washington probing censure charges against fascist Sen. Joseph McCarthy.

... Square D Strike

(Continued from page 1)

They also arrested Ernie Mazy, member of UAW Local 212's Executive Board, as one of four pickets dragged from his car and seized for blocking the parking lot with automobiles.

The FBI was brought in as additional pressure under pretext of "investigating" the supposed "communist" literature found in Petroff's car.

Rep. Kit Clardy, Michigan's own version of Joseph McCarthy, arrived in town to join in the witch hunt. His declaration that the "trouble that broke out" was "no doubt led by Communists" was given a big play in the local red-baiting press.

The Police Commissioner opened up still another front. He called in Carl Stellato, President of UAW Ford Local 600, largest union local in the world, which was among the first to rally to the defense of the Square D strikers...

Stellato was reported to have responded, "You tell us what to do and you want cooperation. In the interest of the people there's only one thing to do and that's shut down the plant. In breaking off the conversation Stellato reportedly told the Police Commissioner 'to avoid calling us the next few days.'"

This morning the latest junction was blared to the pickets by the police from loudspeakers but it seemed to have little visible effect. The pickets' response to the attempt to whip up fresh anti-"Communist" hysteria was already indicated by the mounting size of the picket line.

The number coming down each day has doubled and even tripled.

The UAW Locals that took up the cause of the Square D strikers after they had been on the line for eleven weeks have stuck tough under the renewed barrage from the employers and their political agents.

STINK BOMB But the possibility is still strong that the GOP brass, faced with electoral defeat, will once again throw a McCarthyite stink bomb into the elections just as they did last November.

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THE MILITANT ARMY

Detroit reports an excellent response to the Militant with the article on the Dodge strike...

Johnny and Rudy have been doing call back work and each week get at least one sub. They

considerable opposition was voiced by the rank and file to the proposal of the AFL leaders. The vote was close, but the lack of a well organized opposition, bound together by a militant strike policy, and able to oppose the leadership with a clear-cut program for strike victory, permitted the AFL leaders to push through their proposals.

GOVT STRIKEBREAKER The plain truth is that the strike was lost because the union officials are bound hand and foot to the capitalist parties and their strike-breaking government.

UAW Schedules Job Conference A national economic conference has been scheduled by the CIO Auto Workers for Nov. 19 and 20 in Detroit...

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# The Negro Struggle

By Fred Hart

## The Bomb Replaces the Rope

The rope used to be the symbol of anti-Negro terrorism in this country, but it has been replaced: The bomb is now the weapon most favored by the racist forces.

The story of Trumbull Park Homes, where Negroes for a whole year have been fighting white supremacist attacks to drive them out of their homes, has already been told in a pamphlet ("Racial Terror at Trumbull Park" by Howard Mayhew, Pioneer Publishers, 10c).

But the same story is being written every week in the Negro press about other parts of the country. For example:

In Lake Como, near Fort Worth, Texas, a bomb blew up the auto of a Negro school teacher, K. W. Carter, Jr., parked beside the home his parents had recently bought in a white neighborhood. Carter awakened on Sept. 11, to find glass showering over his head from windows in a smoke-filled room. His car was destroyed and dishes were smashed in surrounding homes, though no one was hurt.

Previously a car belonging to another Negro, Lawrence Peters, was bombed, and a house owned by L. V. Johnson, Negro real estate dealer, was blasted.

Carter said he had been threatened several times by white neighbors in the area when he went to visit his parents. "You'd better stay out of this neighborhood," he was told. The dynamite bomb spoke the same words.

And it was loudly echoed in Coronado, a suburb of Norfolk, Va., where Jim Crow violence is directed against 14 Negro families who recently moved in and another two dozen who have bought homes but hesitate to move into them.

The home of Mrs. V. D. Walton, being minded by Mr. and Mrs. Howard Piggee, was bombed last month. The explosion tore off part of a front of the house and

plaster inside. This was not deemed sufficient. So the house was bombed a second time. This time a porch and much of the interior were demolished.

"Almost nightly and every Sunday," the Kansas City Call reports, "whites get into their cars and form a caravan trying to block Negroes in cars who come out" to see homes for sale or rent. "The whites seemingly are trying to bluff Negroes out, buy them out, burn them out or in the last resort, bomb them out. All things have been tried and Negro families are remaining."

Among the things tried in Coronado, besides bombs, is arson. One house was set afire. Another was entered and flooded, its plumbing torn out. Railroad flares were thrown into the yard of another house. A white man was finally arrested in connection with the latter offense. He was fined \$25 and given a 30-day suspended jail sentence. Many traffic violations are punished more severely than that.

Getting no protection of their lives and property from the local cops, Coronado Negroes appealed to Gov. T. B. Stanley for action to restore "law and order." He didn't seem worried, however. He said he was keeping in touch with the situation but "not contemplating any additional action." Besides, he said, there had been "no mob violence" in Coronado.

This is a complete distortion. Mob violence continues unabated throughout the South, and in many places has increased. The only difference is that the white supremacists now prefer to work in the dark, and to use the bomb and the club instead of the rope and the torch. Whoever denies this fact is a liar in the service of Jim Crow terror. The courageous Negroes defying this terror deserve the support—the active concrete support—of the entire labor movement.

## Solidarity at Square D

By Robert Himmel Jr.

SWP Candidate for Congress, 1st Mich. District

DETROIT, Sept. 20—From the beginning of its strikebreaking attempt the Square D company has tried to use race prejudice as one of its main weapons against the strikers.

Before the present strike only about 150 of the company's 1,200 employees were Negroes. The company has bitterly fought all moves by the union to do away with discrimination in the employment office and inside the plant. The first Negro worker was not hired by Square D until 1943.

But now the company announces that it is going to become a model of democracy. It has deluged the offices of the Negro newspapers with press releases stating that it is hiring Negro workers without prejudice. All they have to do is walk across a picket line and they have a job. The company bragged that two-thirds of the scabs hired on the first day were Negroes.

The Negro community was not taken in by this gag. It was obvious to everyone that the company was trying to create an incident between Negro scabs and white pickets in a predominantly Negro neighborhood. They wanted something that would resemble a race riot and would tend to discredit the strike among Negro workers.

In a statement issued last Tuesday, the Detroit branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People called on Negro workers "not to permit themselves to be used as strikebreakers" at Square D. Arthur Johnson, executive secretary of the Detroit branch, noted that this policy was in line with the resolution passed at this year's na-

tional conference of the NAACP, which said: "The NAACP, as a matter of fundamental policy, calls upon all branches and state conferences to engage in vigorous action to prevent the use of Negroes and other racial minorities for strikebreaking purposes during labor disputes."

This is "fundamental policy" with the Square D strikers too. On the picket line itself the ranks of the strikers are solid. Not a single one of the original Negro employees has returned to work. On the contrary, they have been among the most militant fighters on the line. And among the white workers, many of whom come from the South, there is a new understanding that race prejudice is nothing but a tactic of the bosses to divide the working people.

The company's attempt to inject race hostility into this strike ran up against a solid wall. These workers, hit with every dirty trick the capitalists can think of, know the score and there is nothing that can divide them at this stage of the game.

I wish that every union man and woman in this country could see the Negro and white workers marching together on the Square D picket line, singing the traditional songs of labor's struggles. It would inspire them, as it has inspired many people here, with the unbeatable power of a united labor movement.

This stirring demonstration of solidarity, coupled with the aid that the strikers are getting from other unions, is a dress rehearsal on a small scale of what the capitalists will face in their future attacks on the working people.

## Notes from the News

ONE THOUSAND MORE WORKERS will be laid off by Republic Aircraft Co. at its Long Island Thunderjet and Thunderstreak plant by the end of this month, bringing to 7,000 the total idled since mid-August. The company's vice president said the dismissals will affect workers whose jobs have become unnecessary due to two previous layoffs of 3,000 each, according to the Sept. 19 N.Y. Post.

"BEWARE THE CANNIBALS," warns Textile Labor (Sept. 4) which claims that 150 mills, employing more than 50,000 workers, have been devoured since July 1953. "The dangers" of these corporate mergers, the front-page story says, "are intensified because the principal 'cannibal' companies include those whose past policies have been aimed at high prices, low wages and aggressive anti-unionism."

A PLEA FOR SURPLUS FOOD held in storage by the Federal Government to be distributed to 40,000 "needy unemployed" in the Cleveland area has been made by the Cleveland Industrial Union Council, CIO central body, reports Anthony Mazzolini in the Sept. 9 Cleveland Plain Dealer. Signed petitions pressing for improvement in unemployment compensation have been filed at Columbus but persons already receiving compensation refused to sign. CIUC Executive Secretary E. S. Dietrich explained that "they are afraid because they fear they might run into trouble with their unemployment compensation. The fault is not with them; it is with the state law that creates a psychology of fear among applicants."

TO AVOID A BURNING CROSS, Bernard Beckerman, Hofstra College professor who rented a room to Melvin Smith, 21-year-old Negro student and Korean war veteran, cancelled the deal, reports the Sept. 18 N.Y. Times. The professor explained he heard that his neighbors might burn a cross in his front yard and he "felt there might be difficulties." He added that the "neighbors hinted all sorts of unpleasant things might happen if we went ahead."

THE COUNTRY'S OLD FOLKS are being put in a bad light by Hollywood film makers, states the N.Y. State Legislative Committee on Problems of the Aging. "The only roles Hollywood associates with later life are those of the irascible spinster, the garrulous grandpa, the seedy, aged tramp, and the meddling aunt." The committee pointed out that "such movies prejudice young people against their elders."

A KINDERGARTEN TEACHER was hauled over the coals by her school principal because she explained to her pupils that the Pilgrims came to America "to escape a wicked king." To speak of kings as "wicked" is to follow the Communist line, the principal ruled. The CIO Paperworkers News which reports this story from Los Angeles reminds us that "this is no isolated instance. Remember the school board member in Indiana who wanted to purge Robin Hood from the text books on the grounds the merry men of Sherwood Forest were no more than a cell of plundering Bolsheviks?"

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# THE MILITANT

# Demand Surplus Food For Jobless in Buffalo

## Women Voters League Hears Vince Copeland

BUFFALO, Sept. 9—At a meeting of the local League of Women Voters held here tonight in the YWCA, Vincent Copeland, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Representative from the 41st District, warned of the danger of fascism in America represented by the McCarthyite movement.

The League of Women Voters invited all local congressional candidates to appear. Besides Copeland, the invitation was accepted by Radwan, a Republican; Luca and Wachowiak, Democrats; and Longo a Liberal. About 100 people, mostly middle-class and professional women, turned out to hear the candidates.

Each speaker was given five minutes to present his platform, after which the audience was permitted to question the speakers.

The audience displayed a lively interest and tried to put the candidates on the spot on such key issues as unemployment, foreign policy, the United Nations, the danger of war, etc.

Of the candidates, Copeland was the only one to offer a constructive program for the workers. The Socialist Workers Party, he explained, offers the only realistic proposals for assuring full employment. He also showed that the workers have nothing to gain from another war; and he stressed the danger to America arising from the growth of McCarthyism.

The other candidates all avoided such crucial issues. The Liberal candidate spent most of his time begging the audience not to vote Republican. He never once indicated that he expected any one to vote for him.

When Republican Radwan finished, a worker asked why he had said nothing about unemployment. Radwan answered cynically that unemployment was not an issue because there was no unemployment!

Outraged at this lie, the worker said that unemployment was so severe in the Buffalo area that it was time surplus food be distributed from government warehouses to help them out.

Not one of the capitalist candidates had a word to say about this suggestion. Vincent Copeland, however, said it was a timely proposal. He pledged a determined fight to make it a reality. He also stressed the importance of fighting for the 30-hour week at 40 hours pay to help reduce unemployment.

After the meeting, several workers in the audience congratulated Copeland as the only candidate with a sound program and wished him success in his campaign for office.

## Hear the Voice Of the SWP

Tune in on WKBW every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 10:30 P. M. beginning Sept. 28. Hear the truth about the issues in this election. That's 1520 on your radio dial.

## "WHAT COMPANY IS GOING TO HIRE ME NOW?" WORKER ASKS

BUFFALO—"I've been with du Pont since 1935. I'm 54 years old. What company is going to hire me now? I don't know what I'll do."

This was a du Pont worker speaking — one of the 1,000 thrown out on the street by the billionaire du Pont family when it decided to move its rayon plant from Tonawanda, N.Y., to Richmond, Va.

The du Pont corporation, which draws its fabulous income from practically every product that reaches the American home from toothbrushes to automobiles, had already moved its cellulose sponge production to Tennessee. This is a planned trek southward. It wipes out in one blow the gains of the du Pont workers and it raises a serious threat to every working man and woman. Why did they do it?

Is it what the Buffalo Evening News stated in an editorial on July 8—that the dimming of Buffalo's "good neighborhood" may be driving business interests out of this area? No, the News, which is a spokesman for industry, has distorted and covered up the truth.

The real reason for the du Pont shifts to Virginia and Ten-

BUFFALO, Sept. 18—Socialist Workers Party candidates Dorothy Haines, who is running for Lieutenant Governor of New York, and Louise Ellis, who seeks the state Senate seat for the 55th Senatorial District, are scheduled to head a non-partisan delegation of housewives to go to Washington, Sept. 25, to demand surplus food for the needy in the Buffalo area.

The need for surplus food for the unemployed is acute here. The Socialist Workers Party was the first to call attention to the problem and to insist that something be done about it.

The government has immense surpluses of food that it has brought to keep food prices high throughout the country. The sur-

plus are so large that the government doesn't have enough warehouses to store it, and a whole fleet of ships has been put to use just to store wheat in the cargo holds.

And the food continues to pour in. Some of it rots. Part of it is shipped abroad, not for the sake of sweet charity, but to be used as a carrot to go along with the club that reactionary regimes use against hungry workers in foreign lands.

NEED GROWS DESPERATE  
Meanwhile in America the need for food in depressed areas becomes more desperate. In Buffalo at the last count 16,000 families were on relief. Almost 34,000 were officially listed as unemployed, with some 33% of them receiving no unemployment benefits.

As industry feels the effect of slow strangulation, more workers get dismissal notices every day. A recent headline in the local press proclaiming the end of the "recession" (Eisenhower said so) was greeted in the factories and in the lines of men and women queuing up for unemployment checks with bitter derision.

You can't fool the experts, and Buffalo workers have become unwilling experts on the question of unemployment in this area.

In face of these facts, it is easy to see why the Buffalo area needs surplus food, not as a substitute for relief, which is certainly inadequate at best, but as a supplement to it.

But like many good ideas, simple though it is, most organizations never thought of it. Others such as the Democrats and Republicans, would no doubt oppose it if someone suggested it to them. It was the Socialist Workers Party that came up with the suggestion.

During the campaign to get signatures on New York state nominating petitions to put the

SWP candidates on the ballot, party workers found that popular resentment over the food problem was mounting. The idea of demanding surplus food quickly took hold, particularly in the poorer working-class districts and most of all in that ghetto where thousands upon thousands of Buffalo Negroes are forced to live under the most wretched of slum conditions, the over-crowded Fifth Ward.

Realizing that it had correctly assessed the situation, the SWP began to circulate appeals for a delegation of housewives to go to Washington to voice the demand for allocation of surplus food to the needy in Buffalo.

A delegation, strictly non-partisan in composition, was formed under the leadership of SWP candidates Dorothy Haines and Louise Ellis.

As the campaign began to attract wide support, the Buffalo CIO Council felt compelled to go on record also requesting surplus food. This was a welcome move.

But, typical of its do-nothing policy, it merely passed the buck to the Council of Social Welfare Agencies in the area for appropriate action. It has not been announced when this organization will meet, nor whether it will even honor the request of the CIO Council.

But the needy families on the Niagara Frontier cannot wait with folded hands for the council to act. The SWP is doing everything possible to gain the widest possible support for the Housewives Delegation that is scheduled to go to Washington to demand surplus food.



DOROTHY HAINES



LOUISE ELLIS

## OUR CANDIDATES

The two women candidates of the Socialist Workers Party, who have led the campaign to get up a delegation of Buffalo housewives to go to Washington and demand government surplus food for the unemployed of the Niagara Frontier, are both workers.

Dorothy Haines, SWP candidate for Lieutenant Governor, began work at the age of 18 as a welder in the Hingham Shipyard at Boston during the war. With the post-war layoffs, which hit Negro workers especially hard because of low seniority, she was laid off.

For eight months she looked for a job while her small savings dwindled down to nothing. Then she went to work as a punchpress operator. This lasted until the "recession" of 1949 when she was again out of work. Recently she found employment in a laundry. A dynamic and persuasive speaker, a clear and fearless thinker, she considers her real career to be that of a socialist.

Thus the University of Washington lost a student and the Socialist Workers Party gained a member.

She worked first in an electrical plant, later became a waitress. But like Dorothy Haines she considers her real career to be that of a socialist.

## Workers Head SWP Slate For New York State Offices

When you go to the polls Nov. 2 be sure to vote for the state-wide candidates of the Socialist Workers Party.

For Governor pull the lever indicating your choice is David L. Weiss.

He is a veteran socialist leader, lecturer and educator and has served as a trade-union organizer.

An electrical worker, he headed the SWP ticket in the 1953 New York mayoralty contest.

For Lieutenant Governor vote

for Dorothy Haines whose biography is given above.

For Attorney General pull the lever for Catherine Gratta. A machine operator and inspector for 10 years, she was formerly a shop steward in the United Electrical Workers and served as secretary of CIO Rubber Workers Local 297.

For State Comptroller vote for Harold Robins. A long-time unionist, his record for militancy goes back to the early Thirties.

In 1949 he was the SWP candidate for President of the Borough of Manhattan.



DAVID L. WEISS



CATHERINE GRATTA