

# Nation-Wide Mobilization in Washington Advances the Struggle for Equal Rights

## Major Cities Rally Behind Pilgrimage

By Henry Gitano

A feeling of freedom is in the air, as 50,000 to 100,000 Negroes and whites are preparing to make equal rights a reality by marching on Washington, May 17. Converging on the nation's capital by planes, buses, motorcades and freedom trains will be reinforcements for the greatest mass demonstration against Jim Crow.

Letters, telegrams and phone calls are pouring into the national headquarters of the Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom, as the march is officially called, reporting broad grass-roots backing. Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, one of the leaders of the successful Montgomery Bus boycott and Southern Director for the march is currently touring the South, from whence 15,000 freedom fighters will go to Washington, Birmingham, Ala., has pledged 1,500 people; Mobile, Ala., 500; New Orleans, La., 1,500; Montgomery, Ala., 1,000. Other cities follow this pattern. Underscoring the national scope of the march is the chartering of planes from the West Coast; a contingent of over 3,000 will travel cross country.

### UAW CONTINGENTS

Walter Reuther, president of the United Auto Workers and William Oliver, co-director of the UAW's Fair Employment Practices Dept. issued a statement which said in part, that "terror and violence have been substituted" for implementation of the May 17, 1954 Supreme Court school integration decision. The statement insists that all locals send delegations to the capital; Washington's Hotel 2400 is being reserved for UAW participants.

Detroit is readying its transportation for the May 17 rally. Meetings of the UAW, NAACP, and the Ministerial Alliances have been held to coordinate

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## Tallahassee Helped Pave The Road

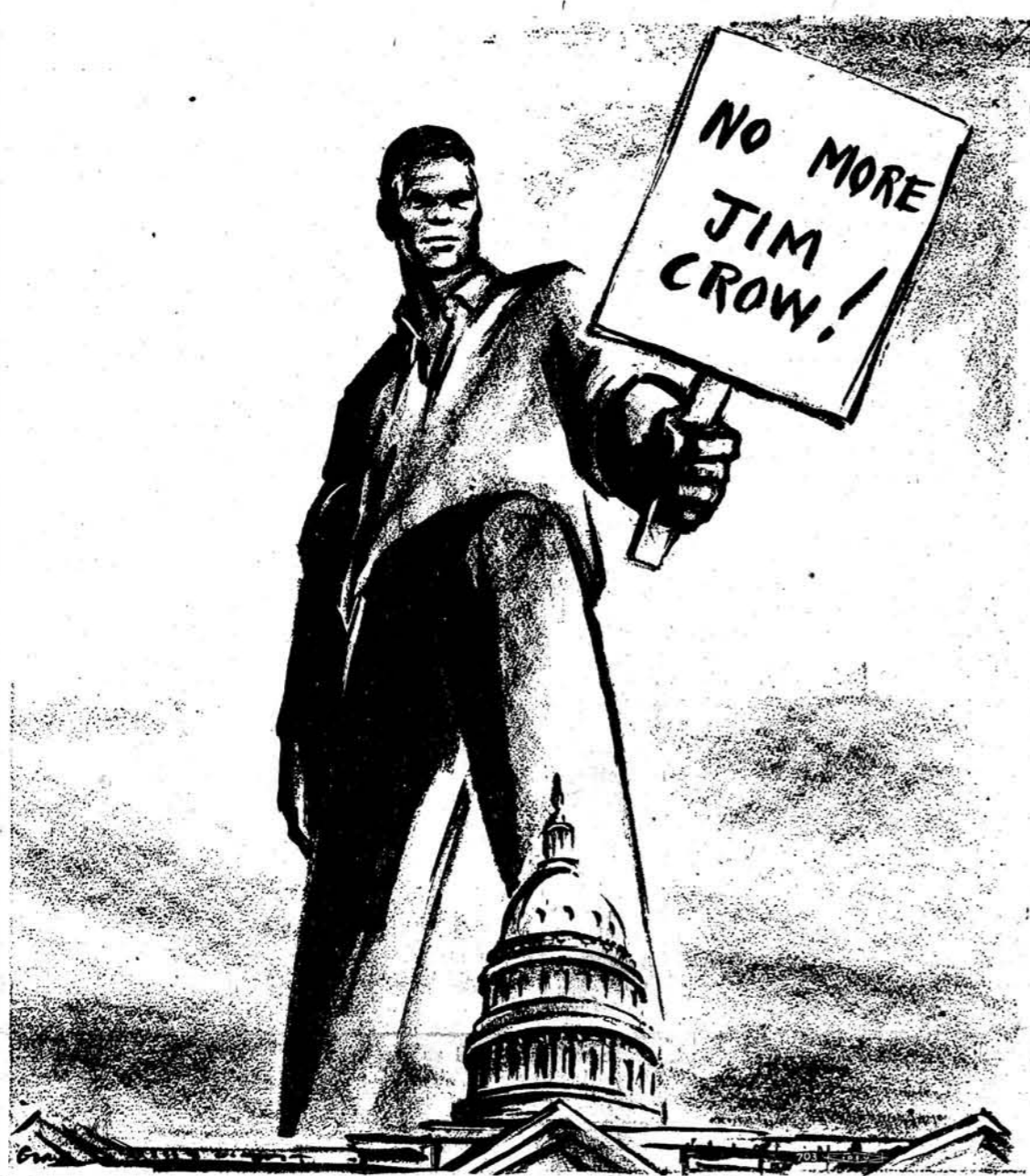
Stepping off Greyhound buses in Washington on May 17 will be representatives of the proud warriors from Tallahassee, Fla. who have been on the firing line for a solid year, echoing in a voice 15,000 strong the determination voiced by a bus boycotter: "When you are choking me, I say to you: turn me loose now, not gradually."

Tallahassee's bus protest, following in Montgomery's footsteps, established the pattern of independent mass action to smash Jim Crow. On May 28, 1956, two Negro coeds challenged segregation on the buses by sitting next to a white woman. Their arrest sparked a spontaneous demonstration by students who threw a human cordon around the bus. The boycott spread rapidly to the entire Tallahassee community which proclaimed that it refused to live a life of insults.

### STRUGGLE BROADENS

From the fight against segregated bus seating which became a symbol of the hated system under which the Negro is herded to the rear, the struggle, led by the Inter-Civic Council, has grown more all-embracing. On April 30, the FCC stirred Florida's capital when it petitioned

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## Union Delegations Help Cement the Unity That is Need to Topple Jim Crow Rule

By the Editors

We extend our warmest fraternal greetings to the tens of thousands who will rally on May 17, in Washington, D.C., in a giant protest demonstration against Jim Crow. This inspiring nation-wide action marks another big advance in the great crusade of the Negro people to win their just demand for complete economic, political and social equality.

In paying tribute to all of the men and women who are turning out for this protest rally, we believe a special salute is in order for the trail-blazing freedom fighters from Montgomery, Alabama, who have done so much to make the Prayer Pilgrimage possible.

Montgomery stands as today's living symbol of the fact that organized, mass rank-and-file action can deal effective blows to the Jim Crow system. On Dec. 5, 1955, the Negro community of that city launched its bus protest movement as a demonstration of solidarity with Rosa Parks, the heroic seamstress who preferred jail to further racist humiliation and abuse.

### Mass Action Gets Results

The splendidly organized rank-and-file movement that then organized itself in the Montgomery Improvement Association knocked out Jim Crow on the Montgomery buses. It won a historic Supreme Court decision declaring Jim Crow travel illegal everywhere. Its continuing resolute action is serving to put teeth into the court's decision. And above all else, the people of Montgomery have served to inspire the Negro people and their white allies everywhere to intensify the struggle.

Much credit is also due the delegations from the big Northern cities—from New York, Chicago, Detroit and elsewhere. The huge turnout for the giant protest demonstrations against the cruel and wanton murder of young Emmett Till in 1955 contributed greatly to sparking the present high wave of militant struggle against racist oppression.

Particularly heartening is the representation in the protest rally of sizeable delegations from the trade unions. By getting behind this action such unions as the United Auto Workers, the Packinghouse Workers, the Garment Workers and District 65 of New York, are contributing a double service. In throwing their weight behind the Negro struggle for equality these unions are not only supporting a just cause, as is their moral obligation, but at the same time they are acting in the best interests of their own membership—both Negro and white.

### The Need to March Together

Such united action by organized labor and the movement of the Negro people is indispensable for advancing the interests of both. This alliance will prove to be the only force capable of smashing the anti-labor, anti-Negro rulers of the South who have long oppressed both white and Negro working people through a policy of "divide and rule."

We can be assured that the outcry of protest in the nation's capital against racist violence will echo throughout the land. It will be heard by all and it will serve mightily to advance the struggle. It will help to further cement the bond between the unions and the Negro people. It will place added rank-and-file pressure on the official leadership of the labor movement to get going on the job which has been delayed too long already—the unionization of the South on a completely integrated basis. Such an organizing drive will kick the progs out from under the backers of the ugly White Citizens Councils and the reviving Ku Klux Klan.

### Toward a Workers Government

With the active support of the labor movement, the Negro people will have an even greater opportunity to build and strengthen such vital organizations as the one which brought victory in Montgomery.

And finally, as this mighty demonstration looms over the White House and the halls of Congress, the key fact is underscored that the battle against Jim Crow is a political battle against both the Republican and Democratic parties—North and South—who are joined in criminal conspiracy to maintain the white supremacist system so profitable for the Big Business interests they both unwaveringly represent.

To effectively combat the pro-segregation policy—pursued despite fine promises—by both major parties, it is essential that organized labor and the Negro people build their own party, a labor party capable of fighting for the political interests of the great majority of the people of this land.

As we raise our voices against Jim Crow let us also determine to work for an end to Big Business rule over the country—for an end to the system that breeds Jim Crow.

## Conference of British Socialist Forums

By Peter Fryer

Special Militant Correspondent

LONDON—After the Hammersmith Congress of the British Communist Party, the antidote. The conference of Socialist Forums held in Yorkshire last week end was both a breath of fresh air and a milestone in the rebirth of British Communism.

It was more, it proved that anti-Stalinist Marxists of widely differing shades of opinion can discuss amicably for 24 hours, agree to differ on questions of principle, yet find more common ground than anyone would have dared to predict the day before the conference met.

### STAY IN FIGHT

And it proved that the 7,000 British Communists who quit the party before the 25th Congress, plus the thousands who are now streaming out, are not disintegrating, as the King Street bureaucracy and the Right-wing press alike prophesied they would.

On the contrary, they are staying together and seeking ways of re-fashioning a Communist movement in Britain.

Now in saying this I do not want to blur the differences that are already quite evident within the Socialist Forums that have sprung up all over Britain in the past six months, and at which Communists, ex-Communists of every vintage from '27 to '57, Labor Party Lefts, members of various Marxist groups and "uncommitted" Socialists come together in the localities for frank and free discussion.

Already there are signs of a polarization within the Forum movement. There are those who tend to seek shelter under the social-democratic umbrella. There are others who are just in the first flush of excitement at reading books that for years they had not even suspected the existence of, books which were on an index of prohibition as rigid and obscurantist as any Vatican list. Their horizons have suddenly and dramatically broadened.

But the important thing at the moment—and the important thing about this national conference—is the agreement to go on discussing, to go on exchanging

views, to embark on joint studies of such subjects as the present stage of development of capitalism and the history of the British working-class movement—studies in which all can pool their ideas.

### TO STUDY STALINISM

There is agreement, too, to continue to organize protest meetings against violations of liberty in East and West alike, to support the movement for colonial freedom and the campaign against the Hydrogen bomb and H-bomb tests.

Above all there is agreement that one of the principal tasks of the Forum movement is to devote careful attention to studying why and how the Stalinist bureaucracy arose in the Soviet Union.

For the highlight of the conference, more important even than the opening lecture by Professor Hyman Levy on the subject "Why Marxism is Unim-

paired," was a lecture by a CP member of 23 years standing, who for the time being is preserving his anonymity.

His subject was "Lessons of the Stalin Era." He called for a re-examination of the controversies of the 1920's, particularly that on "socialism in one country."

He suggested that this idea might have been the ideology of a bureaucracy seeking some justification for its rule in the eyes of Soviet workers and workers abroad.

The lecturer said that in his studies of the development of Soviet society he had found most valuable such writings of Leon Trotsky as "The New Course"—"it is quite uncanny to read this now"—"The Real Situation in Russia and The Revolution Betrayed."

"I make a particular point of saying this," he went on, "because I have made something of a specialty of baiting the Trotskyists and speaking and writ-

ing against them, and I must say it seems to me one of the most regrettable features of my political career."

### HELP SOVIET WORKERS

He said it was essential to shake off the one-sided relationship of subservience to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, "not only for the sake of our own movement, but for the sake of the Soviet comrades also. If we have a feeling of solidarity with the Soviet people we cannot show it better than by very honestly and frankly coming out over such things as the events in Hungary."

While the bureaucracy might not submit without some rather sharp fights, and it might come to some kind of political revolution, there was no scope for a social revolution in the USSR. That was at the basis of his attitude of friendship for the Soviet people plus criticism of the Soviet authorities.

He concluded: "We must asso-

ciate ourselves with the majority of the Soviet people who are struggling by many means, political, literary and others, to bring about an all-important adjustment in the nature of Soviet society."

The effect of this 60-minute lecture can only be described as sensational. It contained such evidence of really profound and honest re-thinking, and the arguments and facts were so clearly marshalled, that those who had come prepared to have a few digs at the "Trots" were silenced.

And one distinguished CP professor wrote a note and passed it across to a well-known Trotskyist comrade asking which books of Trotsky's were available, "and in what order should I read them?"

There was an interesting discussion on whether the Forums should become a new political party. The general consensus of opinion was that they should not

(Continued on page 3)

## DEMOCRATS STILL DUCKING CIVIL RIGHTS

By Myra Tanner Weiss

MAY 6—The National Committee of the Democratic Party, meeting last week-end in Washington had another opportunity to dodge the civil rights issue that is staring it in the face with the coming May 17 protest gathering in the capital. The Americans for Democratic Action pressed the National Committee to fight for adequate civil rights legislation charging Democratic Senators with "delay and deceit." After a brief polemical exchange, the liberals agreed with the radicals to receive and file the ADA comments but to take no further action.

There is nothing new in this dodge of the civil rights fight by the Democratic Party. It is only the latest move in a long record of effective obstruction to any congressional action in defense of the most elementary rights of the Negro people. Combined with Republican do-nothingism, it all adds up to Congressional bankruptcy be-

fore the demands of the civil rights movement.

The civil rights program proposed by Eisenhower a year ago was no more than a gesture toward meeting the demands of the fighters for civil rights. It fell far short of the election promises of even the Republican Party. Yet even this token support of equal rights was emasculated in the House of Representatives. The Southern racists succeeded with little effort in removing from the civil rights bill the two proposals which might conceivably give the segregators trouble.

The Eisenhower program proposed to empower the Attorney General to institute suits against those guilty of discrimination. This power was amended so that only the victim of discrimination can institute legal proceedings—a right the victim already possesses. The bill was also amended so that the Attorney General can seek preventive injunctions only when it can be demonstrated that an employer or an election board "in-

tended" to discriminate in an objectionable procedure.

With the civil rights bill toned down to little more than "investigating" action, it was passed in the House Rules Committee and shuffled off to one procedural obstacle after another. It's not difficult to predict even more difficulties for this innocuous bill when it reaches the Senate—if it does—later in this Congressional session.

Even if one considers that the original Eisenhower civil rights proposal would have been a help in the fight against the segregators, where is the fight of the Administration for the program it sponsored? For the "right" to send U.S. troops to the Middle East, Eisenhower went to Congress in person to appeal for his program. He threatened to go directly to the American people to answer opposition to his monstrous \$72 billion war budget. But for even the mildest civil rights legislation, Eisenhower has done nothing to "get his way."

All of this boils down to the

fact that neither the Democrats nor the Republicans have any serious intention of aiding the struggle against Jim Crow. They probably wouldn't even mention the matter, if the American people weren't as angry as they are over the terror campaign of the White Citizens Councils. The capitalist politicians can't avoid at least a mention of the issue in which the American people are so concerned. And so far promises and brave words have cost them nothing.

All that has been gained in the struggle for civil rights has been won by the efforts of the Negro people alone, particularly in the South. It was this struggle, plus the world-wide upsurge of the colored people of Africa and Asia that won concessions. The historic ruling of the Supreme Court on May 17, 1954, was based on the fact that the previous "separate but equal" ruling of the Court became untenable in the face of world opinion and mass opposition at home to Jim Crow. The

"separate" always meant unequal and the Court could no longer bear the major responsibility for Jim Crow divisions.

In the long run it will be of little import whether a Congressional gesture toward support of the fight for civil rights is made or not. The Negro people have few illusions about either the Democratic or Republican parties. In this respect the Negro people are showing the way to the whole labor movement which is still tied hand and foot to capitalist politics.

### NEED LABOR PARTY

The struggle against the White Citizens Councils therefore resolves itself into the struggle against the political policy of the labor bureaucracy and the official leadership of the Negro movement. Such a struggle must lead to the formation of an independent labor party which will set the defeat of these terrorist organizations as the first objective.

Negro workers in the labor movement can and will play a

decisive role in this struggle. With their advanced understanding and militancy there is already a foundation for the leap of the labor movement into independent political action.

The task is to broaden this significant minority in the union movement. Even a minority of white workers, united with the Negro minority, constitute enough strength to defeat the labor bureaucrats in their policy of company-unionism in politics. And a break-through toward independent political action is all that is needed.

Once the mass of Negro people and unorganized workers see in the labor movement an alternative to the stinking status quo, they will be fired with new capacity for struggle. The whole American people will see the possibility of a different future than that offered by the Democrats or Republicans. They will see something in the future besides nuclear war, insecurity and Jim Crow.



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Eisenhower and King George III

The American people fought for and won independence from foreign domination in 1776. With the victory of the 13 colonies against British rule, a new nation was free to embark on its own historic course...

This is our history and we have considered it good. Now the people of Jordan and other Arab nations want their independence. They want to end foreign domination and make their own future.

The Eisenhower Doctrine, passed by Congress this year, has been tested in the small country of Jordan.

To strangle the effort of the people of Jordan to win independence from all foreign domination, the United States is backing the reactionary feudal monarch, King Hussein. The independence movement is being driven underground. Unions are banned. Political parties are outlawed.

New Support for Morton Sobell

The Reverend A. J. Muste, chairman emeritus of the Fellowship of Reconciliation and an editor of the magazine Liberation, made a noteworthy declaration, May 1, in New York on the case of Morton Sobell. He declared that after studying the case he was convinced that "outside of the Department of Justice, there are very few people left who don't believe that at the very least Morton Sobell is entitled to a new trial."

In taking this stand, Rev. Muste joins a growing list of notables. Among them are such prominent scientists as Harold Urey, J. Robert Oppenheimer and the late Albert Einstein. Others supporting the demand for a new trial include such figures as the journalist Elmer Davis, the English philosopher Bertrand Russell, the famed musician Pablo Casals, Warren K. Billings and Senator William Langer of North Dakota.

Even a brief review of the Sobell case serves to make clear why these prominent individuals and many others so gravely doubt that justice was done. Sobell was tried, along with Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, in a whipped-up atmosphere of witch-hunt hysteria. Before the case even reached a jury, Sobell was "convicted" in the press of delivering atomic secrets to the Soviet Union.

The principal "evidence" that Sobell had so conspired was the unconfirmed word of one man — and that man was an admitted perjurer facing government

The Obituaries for McCarthy

The late Senator Joseph McCarthy got a generally bad press on the occasion of his death. With the exception of the blatantly reactionary wing of the daily press, most editorial comments deplored his unsavory methods in fighting "communism." But the most significant feature of McCarthy, and the movement he represented, went largely unnoticed.

McCarthy, as a sinister political figure, was spawned by the witch hunt. He grew out of the system of "subversive" lists, loyalty oaths, job screenings and such thought-control laws as the Smith Act. This witch hunt was ushered in together with the cold war by the Democratic administration. It was further developed and refined by the succeeding Republican administration.

For a brief period McCarthy became an independent power in opposition to both parties. Republicans who cheered while he castigated the Democrats for "twenty years of treason" came to quail as he extended the period by one year to cover them. He became the Frankenstein's monster of the bi-partisan witch-hunters.

Particularly noteworthy during this pe-

against the people of Jordan only because he had the backing of the U.S. imperialists.

The Eisenhower Doctrine was proclaimed as a U.S. guarantee of the independence and freedom of the countries of the Middle East. It quickly proved to be just the opposite. Using feudal puppets easily bought by the imperialist masters, the U.S. Big Business government is attempting to crush the revolutionary people of Jordan and guarantee the subservient, dictatorial powers of Hussein.

The Wall Street Journal correspondent, Philip Geyelin, on May 3 moaned about the movement of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in support of King Hussein. Geyelin was upset because U.S. "military muscle-flexing" was "seriously embarrassing the hero, King Hussein." The Sixth Fleet was withdrawn and Eisenhower's special envoy retreated in his plans to visit Jordan. The dictatorship of Hussein is not yet secure.

But the purposes of the Eisenhower Doctrine are clear. The revolutionary Arab masses understand. King Hussein is forced to try to conceal his relations with the U.S. The American people must also understand. And unless we are ready to renounce our own revolutionary history, we must demand that U.S. imperialism get out of the Middle East.

prosecution. This was Max Elitcher, who, as a result of his cooperation with the government never had to face the charge of perjury.

Sobell was pictured by the government as a man who acknowledged his guilt in advance by fleeing the country to Mexico and who was apprehended by the authorities only after the Mexican government had deported him from that country.

Last month the Mexican government issued an official denial that it had deported Sobell. Thus it helped confirm Sobell's charge that he, along with his family, had been kidnaped at the instigation of the U.S. government while vacationing in Mexico. He was brutally beaten and brought across the border. Only then did he hear of any charges against him. Whereupon, he waived extradition from Texas and voluntarily came to New York to face trial.

Sentenced to a 30-year term, Sobell is being held in America's worst penal hellhole, Alcatraz, an institution which is supposed to be used solely for incorrigible criminals who cannot be managed in other prisons. He is separated from his family by three thousand miles, able to have visitors once a month and to write a single page letter once a week. Constantly harassed, he has now been informed that he is writing "too small" on the single sheet allotted. All of this cruel and unusual treatment is deliberately designed to force him to confess to a crime he steadfastly swears he never committed.

We hope that many more in the labor and liberal movement will follow the example of A. J. Muste in demanding justice for Morton Sobell.

riod of his rise, was the revolting spectacle of the liberal Democrats, like Humphrey of Minnesota, who sought to "out-flank" him from the right. One of the prime results of this cowardly and treacherous course was the Humphrey-Butler Communist Control Act, the first in American history to declare a political party illegal.

McCarthy continued to prosper on the basis of such "opposition." But the political and social climate in the country proved unripe for his fascist perspective. The Wall Street tycoons who control the U.S. government decided they weren't ready to try to impose a fascist dictatorship on the country and decided to put him on ice for the time being.

The Senate voted to censure McCarthy after the November election showed a swing back to the Democrats, underscoring the fact that it was not yet the season for unbridled McCarthyism.

McCarthy died, not in "oblivion" but under wraps. He will be long and bitterly remembered for the countless victims of his savage application of Hitler's big-lie technique. At the same time it is well also to remember that it was the witch hunt that gave him his start. Until that witch hunt is eliminated from the American scene, root and branch, the danger of future McCarthys remains with us.

British Forum Meeting

(Continued from page 1) —that their particular role is in the field of ideas. E. P. Thompson, one of the editors of The Reasoner (to be reborn next week as The New Reasoner) said the Forums must orient themselves toward the Labor movement, and the hundreds of thousands of Socialists therein.

PERSPECTIVES Clearly the whole Forum movement is a transitional form

Jordan King Issues Ban On Unions

On May 1 the puppet government of Jordan created by King Hussein ordered the dissolution of all trade unions and employe associations. All political parties have been outlawed. Hundreds of nationalists have been imprisoned. Still King Hussein is compelled to conceal his intimate relations with U.S. imperialists. He has accepted U.S. financial aid to Jordan but disassociates that country from the Eisenhower Doctrine.

King Hussein is attempting to consolidate his dictatorial powers with the preparation of "treason" trials against former members of Jordan's cabinet. Two exiled Chiefs of Staff, Maj. Gen. Ali Abu Nuwar and Maj. Gen. Ali Mayari, and the former head of intelligence, Col. Mahmud el-Mussa will be tried in absentia along with a dozen army officers imprisoned in Amman.

Nuwar and Hayari, both in Cairo, accused Hussein of declaring martial law in Jordan in order to thwart the "will of the people." They also declared that the Jordan crisis was instigated by the United States as part of an "imperialist conspiracy" to force the Eisenhower Doctrine down the throats of the Arab people.

—though I would suggest a long-term transitional form—towards the crystallization of a genuine Marxist revolutionary trend in British politics. These are early days to say how soon this trend will emerge as a real force. Many people feel that the place for Marxists now is inside the Labor Party, where the mass of politically-interested workers in Britain are to be found, so that vital experience in leadership and mass work can be gained and the poison of Stalinist methods shed.

Meanwhile the large-scale post-Congress walk-outs from the CP are under way. In Edinburgh Don Renton, a Party member of 28 years, unemployed leader in the early 1930's, International Brigader, prisoner of Franco, CP area organizer, has quit. In his resignation statement he said he preferred to put loyalty to principles above loyalty to leaders.

In Lancashire an outstanding resignation is that of Dick Nettleton, OP member since 1939, former national organizer of the Young Communist League. In London Alison McLeod, Daily Worker television critic, has quit the party and the paper—making the 18th Daily Worker resignation. In Oxford, it is understood that history don Christopher Hill has resigned, though he himself will not confirm this.

BUILD GROUP IN CP

On the other hand, in Leeds, Nottingham, and elsewhere in the industrial Midlands and North, there are signs of a Marxist opposition taking shape with the intention of staying inside the party and fighting in an organized way. How long their open, principled fight can last remains to be seen. But it is already having an effect among the rank-and-file industrial workers in the party.

One working-class member of the industrial branch at Dagenham—home of the key Ford and Briggs automobile factories—started his fellow-members this week when he told them to read Trotsky's The Revolution Be-



PETER FRYER was special correspondent for the London Daily Worker in Budapest last fall. Because he wrote the truth about the struggle of the Hungarian working class to get rid of Stalinism and establish workers' democracy, his dispatches were suppressed and he was subsequently expelled from the British Communist Party. Following his expulsion he stated: "I remain a Communist. I will go on fighting for the transformation of the Communist Party into a genuine Communist party." Last week Peter Fryer joined the staff of the Militant as its correspondent from Great Britain.

trayed. And the OP member who threw light on "Lessons of the Stalin Era" at the Forum conference has been invited to give a talk to the Briggs shop stewards on Sunday night.

These are remarkable developments. And one of the most important and most encouraging features of all is the utter failure of the CP to drive a wedge between the workers and the "intellectuals." The working-class critics of Stalinism and the intellectual critics have never been so close.

Well-Attended Brooklyn Meet Hears Gates, Dobbs, Muste

By Harry Ring

BROOKLYN, May 5—Three hundred and fifty people turned out at the Brighton Community Center tonight for a discussion of "The Road to Socialism in America." On the platform were John Gates, editor of the Daily Worker, Farrell Dobbs, national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party and A. J. Muste of Liberation magazine. Composed largely of supporters of the CP and SWP, the audience displayed interest and enthusiasm for the frank but fraternal exchange of views on the subject of the evening.

Opening the discussion, Dobbs declared that the source of the ever-present war danger lies in the insoluble crisis of world capitalism which is being pushed back by the powerful colonial revolution and by swiftly rising productive power of the Soviet bloc. The war danger, he said, comes primarily from American Big Business which is spearheading the world counter-revolutionary offensive. While the increasing power of the anti-capitalist world has compelled imperialism to slow down its war timetable, U.S. capitalism remains basically hostile to peaceful co-existence with the anti-capitalist world, Dobbs said.

CLASS-STRUGGLE POLICY

Events have demonstrated, he continued, that Wall Street can be checkmated only by a worldwide class struggle against it. That is why, he said, it is necessary to defend the colonial freedom fighters and the workers' states against imperialism. He also called for solidarity with the budding political revolution in the Soviet sphere. This struggle to re-establish workers' democracy based on Soviet property forms, he said, aids the world revolution against capitalism.

Turning to the domestic scene, Dobbs hit at the Communist Party leadership's concept of building a "people's anti-monopoly coalition" based on political collaboration with capitalists. Such a "coalition," he pointed out, has been in effect since the 1930's in the form of the labor movement's support for the Democratic Party. The record shows, Dobbs said, that the labor-Democratic coalition has served only to weaken labor politically and to strengthen the hand of reaction.

The central need today, Dobbs said, is to help forge a left wing in the mass movement advocating a class-struggle program. Such a left wing, he said, must push for the formation of a labor party based on the unions in alliance with the Negro people and the working farmers.

Since a labor party will not be formed immediately, it is especially important, Dobbs argued, for the socialist movement to run its own electoral tickets. Here in New York, he said, the SWP is running Joyce Cowley for mayor and will use the campaign to spread the socialist answer to war, to explain the need for a labor party and to help lay the basis for building a left wing in the mass movement. Such a course, Dobbs concluded, is the most effective way to combat imperialist war and to create the forces that will spearhead the struggle for a socialist America.

PRaises Meeting

On foreign policy, he said the central objective must be the fight for "peaceful co-existence." The growing strength of the socialist world and the weakening of the capitalist world, he contended, makes a new era of co-existence practical and realizable, even though it is being ushered in slowly and painfully.

Gates concluded by expressing his gratification at the successful meeting and declared it a demonstration "that we can work and act together while we discuss those things on which we disagree."

A. J. Muste devoted himself primarily to the continuing need for common frank thinking and discussion by all radical tendencies. Such a discussion is necessary, he said, because "None of us today can see clearly in the concrete sense the road to socialism." Such advice, he added, "is not counsel of despair, but of hope. If we bring all, or approximately all, of the movement into a serious, continuous discussion, we will have accomplished a political act of enormous significance."

The summaries were the most noteworthy features of the evening, as Gates and Dobbs came answered one another's arguments in a spirit of earnest debate.

Contending that Dobbs was incorrect in characterizing the anti-monopoly coalition policy as "anti-class struggle," Gates declared that a struggle "of all the people would be even more productive than just that of the workers alone."

Taking issue with the need for

U.S. Oil Barons Pump Vast Profits Out of Mideast Crisis

Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey earned a net profit of \$237 million in the first three months of 1957, as compared with \$205 million in the first three months of 1956 — the company's banner year, when it earned "more money than any oil company anywhere at any time." (April 10 New York Herald-Tribune.) According to the April 27 N. Y. Herald-Tribune, "a spokesman [of the company] said a 'significant' portion of the increase could be attributed to the booming demand for petroleum products in Western Europe caused by the Suez Canal shutdown."

Standard of New Jersey, which is only one part of the Standard Oil empire, has vast holdings in both hemispheres. When foreign oil stocks took a nose dive on the market last year as a result of the Mideast crisis and the blocking of the

Suez Canal, Standard of New Jersey's stock continued to rise. The company added greatly to its profits last fall and early this year by selling its Venezuelan oil to Western Europe at "crisis"-inflated prices. Restoration of navigation in the Suez Canal will not hurt the company either, since, with other Standard associates, Standard of New Jersey owns two thirds of all the oil in Arabia. And now there is an excellent new and additional market for this oil. The U.S. Sixth Fleet is patrolling the Mediterranean. Its fuel needs are great. And it is close at hand, so that transportation costs for the company are low.

Workers, Students Act Against Colombia Ruler

Mass student demonstrations and a general strike in Bogota Colombia are threatening to topple the bloody dictatorship of Wall-Street puppet General Gustavo Rojas Pinilla. The capital city of Bogota has been occupied by the Army, apparently the only group in the country which still remains loyal to Rojas. The Catholic Church of Colombia, according to the May 6 New York Times, is expected to withdraw its support for the Rojas regime.

The reactionary Conservative Party leaders who for the most part backed Rojas when he took power in 1953 in a military coup, have already indicated willingness to dump him in favor of a military junta or some other device since his almost unbelievably cruel, corrupt and bloody regime is no longer able to control the insurgent Colombian masses.

STUDENTS BEGIN IT The present uprising began last week when university students struck protesting plans for supporters of Rojas to have him re-elected president by a constituent assembly which he had appointed for that purpose. Rojas' police then attacked demonstrators with clubs, tear gas shells and streams of red dye, designed to mark oppositionists for police roundups. By May 5 when the army occupied Bogota, police had killed at least five persons and injured hundreds more, banks and shops were closed, and industrial strikes were spreading throughout the South American nation of 13 million people.

Colombia has been in constant crisis featuring guerilla warfare in the countryside since April 9, 1948 when a general strike and uprising was sparked by the assassination of Jorge Gaitan, the left-wing leader of the opposition Liberal Party. A succession of tottering regimes, some including right-wing elements of the Liberal Party followed until Rojas took over with the backing of the U.S. State Department and the Catholic Church and established a rigid military dictatorship.

World Events

A BRITISH government court of inquiry, appointed to investigate the biggest strike in England since 1926, has made its recommendations. The strike began last March with 200,000 shipyard workers and grew until it involved 1,500,000 workers in the metal fabricating industries before it was called off pending the court's recommendations. The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions had demanded a 10% wage increase for its 3 million members. The bosses offered 5% on provision that no new wage claims be made for one year and that the union cooperate in speeding up operations. The court recommended, May 2, an increase of about 5% with no strings attached or of about 6 1/2% with the wage freeze and speed-up provisions. Union officials began meeting May 4 to consider the court's proposal. A Tory government drive reducing welfare benefits and raising rents, and a steep hike in the cost of living since the Suez fiasco were the cause of the wage demands.

MAY DAY IN BERLIN featured huge turnouts in both the East and West sectors. About 300,000 persons gathered May 1 at a trade union rally in West Berlin. The central demand was for the 40-hour week.

THE BRITISH LABOR PARTY has launched a campaign against the testing of H-bombs. Leaders of the party demanded May 5 that the Government postpone its planned hydrogen tests as a step toward international agreement to ban nuclear explosions. The demands were voiced in speeches throughout England by leaders including Laborite right-winger Hugh Gaitskell and left-winger Aneurin Bevan. Gaitskell attacked Tory Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd's assertion that Communists were behind the agitation against the scheduled British tests. What is really behind it, he said, are scientific reports indicating that if the tests were continued the health of the human race might be damaged. Bevan said "No weapon which is at the same time a weapon of suicide can be a weapon of diplomacy."

FRENCH WEST AFRICAN "elections" held March 30 for local councils in the eight French colonies were boycotted by the mass of the electorate. Pro-French political groups won majorities throughout the colonies, but were disheartened by the boycott which reached 80% in some localities. The newly established elected councils were touted as a progressive step in French imperialist rule. But the councils

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IN CEYLON a general strike of plantation workers was called for May Day by the three plantation unions to enforce a demand that May Day be a full-paid holiday. About 500,000 workers are involved. Government employes in Ceylon previously won the same demand.

Mass Action Has Won the Victories

It was in 1941, when the U.S. was preparing to go to war, that the anger of the Negro people with their exclusion from the expanding industry and their segregation in the drafted armed forces boiled over.

THREAT BROUGHT FIRST FEPC
The threat of such a mass protest frightened the politicians, from Roosevelt down, so much that whereas they had earlier been "too busy" to receive delegations of Negro leaders who wished to protest Jim Crow, they now began running around putting all kinds of pressure on the MOW leaders to call off the March.

AN ALLY ABROAD
In the post-war period the Negro people of America continued their heroic struggle for equal rights. In this fight they received support from allies in the trade union movement, from socialists and from liberals.

Thus when the Supreme Court on May 17, 1954 overruled its old Plessy decision and declared school segregation unconstitutional it was listening not only to the voices of the Negro people and other opponents of Jim Crow in the U.S. but to the voices of the colored people of India, Indonesia, China, Indo-China and all the other countries of the colonial revolution.

This defiance is compounded of statements of interposition in Congress, amendment of state constitutions, rigging of school laws, outlawing of the NAACP on the governmental level and the unleashing of physical and economic terror by mob action, lynchings, bombings, creation of the White Citizens Councils, spread of the Ku Klux Klan and similar organizations on the grass roots level.

...Major Cities Rally ...TALLAHASSEE

to set up a conference with Congressional leaders for the morning of the rally. Dr. King will lead a procession of station wagons and cars from Montgomery, the same vehicles that sped the bus boycotters to victory.

In New York, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Montgomery, Richmond, Philadelphia and Baltimore simultaneous mass meetings will be held on May 11 at noon. It was also announced that these same cities will hold Torchlight Motorcades bidding farewell to their Washington-bound delegations on May 15. The meetings were set up in a long distance conference between Rev. Kilgore, national director, and leaders in each of the cities all tied in on the same line.

In Washington over 60 churches are being set up as reception centers. Rev. Martin Luther King of Montgomery said that efforts would be made

Calendar of Events

Cleveland
Militant Forum, Sat., May 18, 8:15 P.M. presents the film, Salt of the Earth, at the YMCA, 2200 Prospect Ave. Contribution 90c.
Detroit
Friday Night Socialist Forum, May 17, 8:00 P.M. "Perspectives for American Youth." Speaker: Tim Wohlforth, member of the National Action Committee of the Young Socialist League. Place: 3737 Woodward.
Los Angeles
School of International Socialism presents two series of Saturday afternoon lectures. At 1 P.M., "The First American

lobbying, letters to Congressmen, etc., don't do the job. This is illustrated by the decline in even the amount of lip service the liberals in the last two Congresses gave to the civil rights fight. Civil rights bills never even got as far as a filibuster — they died in committee. A new low even in campaign promises on civil rights was reached last year in the platforms adopted by the Republican and Democratic conventions.

MONTGOMERY
In the Deep South, where the Negro people suffer the most barbarous oppression and discrimination, this new fighting spirit produced the new method of struggle which the times demand. This was mass action. The united action of 50,000 people in one city against mistreatment and Jim Crow on the buses. The people of Montgomery in their historic boycott have shown the power of mass action and militancy. They have spearheaded the counter-offensive to the WCC and the Dixiecrats. They have set an example of how to win victories in this day and age.

It is significant that the present March on Washington originates in the South. It was first projected at the meeting of Southern leaders who demanded that Eisenhower speak out against the racist reign of terror. Since then it has been broadened to a national movement and as a prayer-pilgrimage will present no single specific demand in the nation's capital.

THEY'LL COUNT THE THOUSANDS
A gigantic turnout cannot but enhance the anti-Jim Crow struggle and the political position of the Negro people. More than that, it will confirm for the Negro people nationally the lesson Montgomery has learned and taught in the past year — namely, the power of mass action. This is not to say that the present March on Washington alone will cave in the white supremacists, North and South. A long line of battles loom ahead before that glorious day is reached. One of those battles will be the formation by the Negro people along with labor and working farmers of a new party — untainted by Jim Crow and pledged to its destruction — a labor party. But that's another story in itself.

county school authorities to start integrating schools. The ICC action thus was a challenge to the Florida legislature which had, on April 18, adopted a resolution declaring the state would not abide by the Supreme Court decision on desegregation because it was "null and void."

Calendar of Events

Revolution," by Wm. F. Ward. May 18 subject: "How the Revolutionary War was Fought and Won." At 2 P.M., "The Russian Revolution of 1917," by Theodore Edwards. May 18 subject: "The October Revolution: How the Workers of Russia Won State Power." 1702 E. 4th St.
New York
American Youth for Socialism holds open meetings every Tuesday night at 8:00 P.M., at 116 University Place. A short business meeting is followed by an interesting educational discussion. May 14: a review of Peter Fryer's book, Hungarian Tragedy. Speaker: Art Ross.

Want Integrated Schools, Raise for Teachers, in N. Y.

By Joyce Cowley

Socialist Workers Party Candidate For Mayor of New York

The recent public hearings on Mayor Wagner's proposed budget for the coming year were highlighted by a stormy 14-hour session on education in which 82 speakers were heard. Teachers protested the drastic cut in the salary increases requested by the Board of Education, and organizations fighting for school integration charged that the Mayor had deleted items totaling \$15 million which were crucial to putting the integration program into effect.

The \$23 million originally proposed in pay increases for teachers was cut to \$6.4 million. Two thousand angry and defiant teachers picketed City Hall. At a public meeting that followed, when Charles Cogan of the Teachers Guild asked for suggestions on further action, the teachers roared "strike, strike." Since there is a state law against strikes by public employees, teacher organizations considered a series of one-day stoppages which apparently would not violate this law, and the use of paid pickets to enforce the boycott of extra-curricular activities. A slowdown, which could be effected by a sudden rise in requests for sick leave, has also been suggested.

INTEGRATION ITEMS

It was anticipated that the hearing on school integration would be controversial, because civic groups in Queens had threatened to "storm City Hall" to oppose the program. But only one speaker for Jim-Crow schools appeared, Matthew J. Shevlin, Americanism Chairman of the American Legion in Queens. Speakers from the Urban League, the Intergroup Committee on New York Public Schools, the United Parents Association and other organizations demanded that items essential to the integration program be restored to the budget.

The Mayor has submitted a record budget of almost \$2 billion but, as usual, the urgent needs of our schools and our teachers have been neglected. Wagner has been more attentive to real estate interests, promising there will be no tax increase and even hinting there might be a one-cent drop in the basic tax rate.

The Mayor's budget devotes a number of pages to a glowing recital of the accomplishments of his administration, and according to the New York Times it takes on "the color of a campaign handbook for use in his fall campaign." This handbook is obviously not going to make a favorable impression on the



JOYCE COWLEY

teachers, or on the parents and organizations fighting to implement the integration program. We need a Mayor in City Hall who considers education more important than a reduction in the real estate tax, but we can't expect this from a Democratic politician, or a Republican either, since both parties are tied to real estate and Big-Business interests.

Only an independent labor party, with no obligations except to the working people it represents, will give top priority to the education of our children.

Ford Local Wants Union Man on Detroit Council

DETROIT — A potentially important development in Detroit politics was the recent decision by the executive board of UAW Ford Local 600 in favor of at least one labor candidate being run for the Common Council in this year's city election campaign.

The specific motion passed by the executive board, on the recommendation of its officers, was "That Local 600 urge the Wayne County CIO Council to choose and endorse from the ranks of labor at least one candidate to run in the 1957 elections for the Detroit Common Council."

Just how the Wayne County CIO Council will react to this proposal remains to be seen. Its present leaders are all active in the Democratic Party, and hostile to any political action that would even imply a break with the Democratic machine. A mere discussion of the question would represent a refreshing change for the Council, which has gone down the line for the Democrats 100% in recent years.

SUPPORT FROM LOVELL

On the other hand, the Local 600 action was greeted with enthusiasm by Sarah Lovell, Socialist-Workers-Party-endorsed candidate for mayor. For the last two months she has been campaigning to persuade the labor movement to call a united labor conference to nominate its own candidates for municipal office before July 27, the final filing date for the fall primaries.

"The Local 600 proposal," she said, "is a promising beginning. Of course there is no reason why the labor movement, so strong in our city, should run only one or a few candidates of its own. It should nominate a full slate. Also, the selection of a slate should not be by the CIO alone, but by the CIO and AFL jointly with their allies among the Negroes, housewives, young people, etc."

"But it is a good step in the right direction. I hope that it will lead to similar action by other union locals, and to a fruitful discussion in the whole labor movement about what role it is going to play in politics this year."

Mrs. Lovell has been visiting GM, Ford and Chrysler locals, explaining the need for a break with the Democrats and the running of an independent labor slate.

The response at these meetings is usually one of real inter-

Need for United Fight On Speed-Up Shown by L.A. Chrysler Strike

MAYWOOD, Calif., May 5—

The strike of 4,000 workers at the Chrysler assembly plant here was settled two weeks ago. Terms of the settlement between the Chrysler Corporation and Local 230 of the United Auto Workers have not yet been made public, but semi-official statements give the details as follows:

(1) The rate of production was frozen for the duration of the 1957 models at approximately 516 cars per day. Production had been raised from 473 cars to 525 when the strike was called on the speed-up issue, and during

the negotiations Chrysler at one point even demanded a rate of 616 cars per day.

(2) Chrysler agreed to hire enough additional manpower (about 118 men) to equalize the number of men on shifts doing identical work.

(3) Skilled trades workers were no longer to be replaced by outside contracting, except in cases where the work was of such a nature that the plant men were not qualified to perform it.

(4) Workers discharged, or otherwise penalized for protesting the speed-up, were reinstated.

Local 230's strike reached a serious crisis in its third week. Rank-and-file morale was low because the strikers were not being given adequate strike relief and they were being left to fight the entire Chrysler Corporation with only their own local resources. At that time the UAW officialdom reversed its policies. Strike relief was greatly liberalized and other locals were allowed to contribute money directly to Local 230 instead of having their donations impounded and placed in the International's strike fund.

HELP FROM OTHER LOCALS

However, the greatest factor in settling the strike was the move on the part of other Chrysler locals to cut off overtime work and to prepare for strike action themselves. In addition some workers conducted "unauthorized" strike action in the Detroit Chrysler plants. When the Corporation saw that the Chrysler workers all over the country really meant business and were exerting pressure to spread the strike against speed-up, management began to bargain on a more reasonable basis.

Local 230's strike clearly posed a question mark over the Reuther administration's entire policy with respect to bargaining in the auto industry. Unlike the steel workers' and miners' unions, the Reuther leadership has always insisted upon a one-at-a-time strategy in auto. Under this policy, industry-wide bargaining with all of the companies at one time has been excluded. This policy, instead of winning better conditions for the auto workers, has allowed the industry to push speed-up — in many cases to higher levels than before the union was organized.

The Chrysler Corporation has craftily exploited the Reuther strategy. It points to the more intense speed-up in the GM system and claims that its competitive position compels it to raise work standards in its own plants. Militant unionists have pointed out time and again that instead of bringing GM speed-up into the Chrysler plants, the relatively better working conditions in the Chrysler plants should be brought into GM.

UNEQUAL CONTEST

The UAW's leadership has extended its one-at-a-time strategy to the point where it now proposes that speed-up and other problems which exist throughout the entire auto industry are to be combatted on a local union level. The pressure from the ranks has forced the International officials to allow individual locals, like UAW 230, to strike in an effort to change management policies which are formulated on a Corporation and industry-wide level.

But unequal contests of this kind can lead to the dissipation of the energy and militancy of the workers in a series of ineffective and isolated actions which cannot settle the speed-up problem. Reuther's answer to rank-and-file protests against speed-up at the recent convention was: "If you want to strike over speed-up, we'll give you authorization and backing. The International is just as militant as anyone else on this issue."

JUST OFF THE PRESS The Santana Case

Tragedy of a Puerto Rican Youth By Joyce Cowley (An American Youth for Socialism Publication) 17 pages 10 cents Order from: Pioneer Publishers 116 University Place New York 3, N.Y.



SARAH LOVELL

est in her proposals. In some cases prolonged discussion and questions from the floor follow her remarks. Although no locals have yet endorsed her proposal for an independent labor slate, many workers and local officers have thanked her warmly for raising the issue at their meetings.

Interest in her campaign has also been expressed in the letter columns of the Detroit News. Following her formal filing as candidate, the News printed a letter from a reader challenging, from a conservative standpoint, Mrs. Lovell's main theme—that "Labor and its allies, representing the majority of the population, have the power, the right and duty to govern Detroit."

DISCUSSION IN PRESS

This led to the publication of a considerable number of letters pro and con, including one by Mrs. Lovell, which was answered after a fashion by editorial staff member W. K. Kelsey in his column, The Commentator.

Last month Mrs. Lovell asked the Wayne County CIO Council and the Wayne County Federation of Labor to consider her proposal and to let her speak to them about it. So far no answer has been given by either body to her appeal.

The Lovell campaign headquarters is at 3737 Woodward. Campaign literature may be obtained there any weekday evening between 7 and 9 P.M., or by phoning TEmple 1-6135.

Workers' BOOKSHELF

By Anne Chester Manager, Pioneer Publishers This week Pioneer Publishers is featuring books and pamphlets on the Negro Struggle in America. These include:

THE JIM CROW MURDER OF MR. AND MRS. HARRY T. MOORE (New Dangers and New Tasks Facing the Negro Struggle.) By George Breitman. 31 pages. 10 cents.

Written in memory of two courageous fighters for equality.

DESEGREGATION — Labor's Stake in the Fight for Negro Equality. By Jean Simon, 16 pages. 10 cents.

The Supreme Court ruling on school desegregation and the struggle to put it into effect.

THE STRUGGLE FOR NEGRO EQUALITY. By John Sand-

ers and Albert Parker. 48 pages. 10 cents. (Third Edition.) With a special article by Leon Trotsky on the Negro Struggle reprinted from the Militant, Aug. 15, 1942.

NEGROES ON THE MARCH. A Frenchman's Report on the American Negro Struggle. By Daniel Guerin. 192 pages. Cloth, \$2; paper \$1.50.

Phylon Magazine, a leading Negro publication says of this work: "The most painstaking attempt to analyze race relations in the U.S."

BLACK RECONSTRUCTION IN AMERICA, 1860 - 1880. By W. E. B. DuBois. (New Edition.) 746 pages. Special price \$5.50.

This book, by the foremost historian of the Negro question in America, sets forth, with

voluminous documentation, the true role of the slaves in fighting for their emancipation and of the freed men in the struggle to reorganize Southern society on a democratic basis, following the Civil War.

Order the above books and pamphlets from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

CORRECTION

In the May 6 issue of the Militant it was stated that Pioneer Publishers are distributors of book, I.W.W. — A Study of American Syndicalism, by Paul Brissenden. This was an error. Pioneer Publishers is only making the book available at a special price of \$5.75 (list price, \$7.50).

With this demagoguery the Reuther administration is attempting to divert attention from the fact that the workers want an effective industry-wide struggle against speed-up and not permission to blow off some steam in isolated and often costly actions. The action of the workers throughout the Chrysler system, which brought about a favorable settlement of the Maywood strike, shows that token concessions by Reuther to demands for a struggle against speed-up will not be enough.

The militants in the UAW must draw the lessons of Local 230's strike. Local 230 could not make any progress, even on a local level, until the other Chrysler locals started to move into action. This proves the need for a national UAW council of production workers for the purpose of preparing for an industry-wide struggle against speed-up and for better working conditions in auto. Such a council would put the union in a stronger position to make some real progress in the 1958 negotiations.

Chrysler Plants In Detroit Hit by Twelve Walkouts

MAY 8 — The 23,000 workers of the Chrysler Corporation in the Detroit area today took a strike vote. Expectations were that the count would reveal an overwhelming majority favoring strike action.

The holding of a strike vote is the culmination of a series of job actions which off and on have interrupted production since the end of April. These rank-and-file walkouts are symptomatic of the frayed tempers of the Chrysler workers, who since the reorganization of the company's production methods have been subjected to an inhuman speed-up. On top of the speed-up is the fear of loss of jobs. The company's work standards reorganization resulted in some 20,000 Chrysler workers losing their jobs last year. Other job threats are automation, decentralization, i.e., runaway moves from Detroit by the company, and the replacing of the production of certain parts by purchase from outside suppliers.

The intermittent shutdowns of Detroit Chrysler in the past week have been over the last two grievances listed above. On May 2 the corporation discharged two shop stewards and a committeeman for allegedly interfering with attempts to move dies and welding fixtures out of the Detroit plant. In protest 124 truck drivers stopped work. Thereupon the company laid off 40,500 employees. On May 6 a crane operator at the South Vernon plant refused to load a die on a truck and walked off the job. He was suspended by the corporation and immediately 400 workers put down their tools.

The union has declared grievances against the company's moving of equipment to a new plant in Twinsburg, Ohio, without giving the union assurance that engineering and office workers in the Detroit plant who wish to move to Ohio will be given their jobs. Also demanded by the union is the return of the manufacturing of seat cushions and of die work to the Detroit plants. Both operations have been farmed out by the corporation to suppliers.

In the midst of these labor struggles the Chrysler Corporation made public its report for the first quarter of 1957 — the most profitable in its history. Net corporate earnings were 327% higher than in 1956.

A Day Together For Justice!

SOBELL BOAT RIDE TO BEAR MOUNTAIN Sunday, May 26 Roundtrip: Adults \$2.50 Children \$1.00 Tickets at: Morton Sobell Committee 940 Broadway, N.Y.C. Phone: AL 4-9983