

Leading Radicals On West Coast Back Jack Wright

SEATTLE, Feb. 2 — Terry Pettus, Northwest editor of the People's World, a west coast weekly associated with the Communist Party, today announced his support to

Jack Wright for the Seattle City Council. Wright is running on the platform of the Socialist Workers Party and has the endorsement of Local 158, International Molders and Foundry Workers, to which he belongs. Growing united socialist support for Wright was given strong added impetus with the release on Jan. 28 of a letter of endorsement from Vincent Hallinan, 1952 Progressive Party Presidential candidate, who has been playing a major role in the national movement for united socialist action.



VINCENT HALLINAN

SMITH-ACT VICTIM

Terry Pettus, one of the Seattle Smith Act victims who recently won reversal of their conviction, declared his support of Wright at a Washington Pension Union forum this afternoon. Pettus told the forum that Wright has been virtually the only candidate to inject real issues into the campaign. Referring to Wright's endorsement by the Socialist Workers Party and the Molders Union, Pettus stressed the fact that the supposedly "non-partisan" character of the Communist campaign is really a farce in that all candidates, in reality, represent particular interests.

parties and classes. He singled out for special praise the firm stand taken by Wright against a city sales tax and against the Fire Department's refusal to hire Negroes.

Pettus had previously indicated a sympathetic attitude toward Wright's campaign in his column

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Young Socialists Hold Spirited Chicago Parley

CHICAGO, Feb. 4 — The building of the socialist youth movement in America made a major advance this week with the successful convening of the Midwest Conference of Socialist Youth Feb. 1 and 2, in a beautifully decorated

Hall at the University of Chicago. About 140 young workers and students from more than 16 cities and 12 colleges and high schools, representing nearly every shade of socialist political opinion, met to discuss the problems facing today's youth and to outline steps to deal with them. All young socialists had been invited regardless of political affiliation.

The Conference passed with but one dissenting vote a resolution demanding that the State Department return the passports of the 42 students who visited China in defiance of an unwarranted government ban. This resolution and others that were passed will go to the appropriate government agencies as well as to youth groups in this country, Europe and Asia.

The conference heard a report on the case of Morton Sobell and passed a resolution unanimously backing efforts to free him from Alcatraz. It also condemned as an infringement of civil liberties the conviction of Gil Green and Henry Winston under the Smith Act, called for a halt to the testing of nuclear weapons and an end to restrictions on passports.

SET UP BULLETIN

In a further action, the group voted to establish a mimeographed bulletin containing news of the activities of all clubs represented at the Conference as well as discussion material on political and theoretical questions. Each club will be asked to appoint a correspondent to the bulletin.

All material submitted to the

Southern Editor Greets Conference

Eugene Feldman, editor of Southern News, delivered an inspiring address to the Midwest Conference of Socialist Youth, held in Chicago, Feb. 1 and 2. "You are the future," he said. "Not the young Republicans, but you are the future." The Conference sent a message of greetings to Mrs. Daisy Bates of Little Rock, Ark., and the Negro students of Central High School for their courageous fight against the racists.

bulletin will be published, the group declared. The board of editors will not have the right to refuse any article. In this way, the bulletin will be representative of all points of view, and cannot become the mouthpiece of any particular tendency. Cost of publication is to be borne by supporting clubs.

The Conference worked in seminars, panels and general sessions. It heard reports on youth activities in various cities, discussed economic problems, civil liberties, civil rights and the struggle for peace. The entire conference met Saturday afternoon for the discussion on civil liberties. Norman Hodgsett of the Denver Young Socialist Club spoke on the struggle against the witch hunt on the campus. I. Warwick of Chicago spoke on

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SWP Nat'l Committee Urges United Socialist Ticket in '58

DISTRESS OF JOBLESS GROWING

FEB. 5 — A bread line in Memphis, Tenn., touched the heart of Sen. Albert Gore, Democrat of that state, and brought him to the point of proposing a national public works program to create jobs. He watched long lines of unemployed moving slowly to receive free food taken from government surplus stocks.

"I am surprised and disturbed to find approximately ten percent of the people in Shelby County standing in lines for distress distribution of food," the Senator said. "That is as bad as anything I remember during the depression of the '30s." City officials in Memphis stated that 10,352 families had registered for aid. Many were farm laborers seeking off-season work in Tennessee, according to Memphis officials.

Whatever the case might be — farm laborers in Tennessee, miners in depressed metal industries, auto workers in Detroit, steel workers in Ohio and Pittsburgh — reports of growing layoffs and rising applications for relief continue. The Feb. 5 Wall Street Journal reports that the rubber industry is now down-grading its 1958 production estimates. "Passenger tires were heaped high at the end of 1957. . . . The build-up in the final quarter of 1957 was considered abnormal, averaging more than a million a month."

LAYOFFS IN RUBBER

The rubber industry, like auto and steel, does not try to "whittle away at this tire mountain" by price cuts. That would reduce profits. Big Business answers with production cuts and layoffs. The United Rubber Workers union estimates close to 2,000 have been laid off in Akron rubber plants alone with another 1,000 layoffs expected in a week or so. But the jobless are not the only ones with problems. The Feb. 6 N. Y. Mirror reports, "When the President's council of economic advisers wrote his economic message to Congress, they were given strict instructions not to use that fateful word 'recession.' As a result Chairman Raymond Saulnier, who wrote most of the message, kept a dictionary on hand to look up words that meant the same thing as 'recession' but sounded better. . . ." (See other stories on jobless, page four.)

Venezuela Revolution



Celebrating the overthrow of the hated Venezuelan dictator, Marcos Jimenez, crowds in the capital city of Caracas swarm over tanks as the army joins the celebrations. The demonstrators freed political prisoners and searched out members of the hated secret police.

Sobell Freedom Appeal Gets Youth Backing

FEB. 5 — The struggle to free Morton Sobell from Alcatraz won many new participants when the frame-up of the young scientist was explained to those who attended

the Midwest Socialist Youth Conference in Chicago Feb. 1 and 2. These young people, eager to fight for justice in this country, listened with shock as the story was told and determined, unanimously, to fight for Sobell's release from prison.

Morton Sobell was tried in the so-called "atom spy" case of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg. Sobell himself was never charged with stealing atomic secrets nor any other kind of secrets. Under the "conspiracy" law, all that the government had to do was show that the accused were associated in some way or other.

Sobell was nevertheless sentenced to the monstrous term of 30 years in prison. Persecution against him did not stop there. He was placed in the most terrible, "security" prison in the country — Alcatraz — where prison life is limited almost to mere existence.

Sobell has always insisted on his innocence. Still the Supreme Court last fall refused to review his conviction. It refused to test in court impressive new evidence obtained by Sobell's defenders that Sobell told the truth and the prosecution lied.

The Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell is now con-

ducting a nation-wide petition drive appealing to the President to release the young scientist from prison. The Committee has offices at 940 Broadway, New York 10, N. Y., and is keeping doors open to those who have time to help every night, Monday through Friday until 9 P.M.

Those outside of New York City who want to join the appeal for Sobell's freedom should write to the Committee's office for petitions, information on the case, etc.

If it is possible for the government to frameup and persecute a young scientist like Morton Sobell, no one is secure in his freedom. Those who are genuinely concerned with the struggle for full restoration of civil liberties in this country have an obligation to contribute to the movement to free Sobell.

A medical corps officer in Germany publicly refused to shake hands with his new commanding officer — a Negro. To avoid possible court martial "for conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman," he resigned. Back in the U.S. he changed his mind. The Pentagon tore up the resignation and gave him back his rank.

Propose Joint Challenge To Big Business Parties

The National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party last week proposed to the radical movement in the United States the running of a joint socialist ticket in the 1958 election. This proposal was presented in an advertisement in the Feb. 3 National Guardian, (see text, this page). It was adopted by the SWP committee at a meeting, Jan. 18-20.

The SWP committee said it had reached the conclusion that "an unusual opportunity for running joint slates in key areas now faces the various socialist tendencies." It also suggested a number of propositions for a common election platform.

In presenting the proposal to the National Committee, Farrell Dobbs, party National Secretary stated:

"The regroupment discussion of the last few years has placed high on the agenda of radical workers the need for united action on issues where all can agree. The election campaign in 1958 presents an opportunity for a concentrated action on civil liberties, civil rights and the all-important questions of the struggle for peace and full employment.

1957 EXPERIENCE

"In 1957 a growing tendency for united election activity was manifest. The support of the National Guardian and many prominent radicals to the slate of candidates placed on the ballot by the SWP was an ex-



FARRELL DOBBS, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party and candidate for United States President in 1956.

pression of the desire for a united socialist campaign.

"Opposition to the two capitalist parties, the Democrats and Republicans, is urgently needed. With the growth of unemployment, mounting inflation and the threat of new

anti-labor laws, an oppositional voice will get a hearing. Only the socialist can provide an answer to these problems and to the monstrous war preparations of Big Business.

"The witch-hunters, the warmongers, the segregators will then encounter a united and effective opposition by the radical forces in this country.

WILL WIN THOUSANDS

"The first united socialist campaign may not win elections. But it will win thousands of new adherents to socialism from the ranks of the working class. As I see it, the task of a socialist ticket is to explain as intelligently as possible what socialism is, to propose concrete objectives for which the working people can struggle now to advance the cause of peace and of jobs, and to explain the need for independent labor political action against the Big Business parties. I am sure that if the idea of a united socialist campaign is agreed on, we will be able through friendly discussion, to work out the kind of platform that will best embody our common objectives."

Another decision of the National Committee was the launching of a \$20,000 fund drive in the spring. Special attention would be given to the expansion of the party press.

Text of Socialist Workers Party Proposal to Radical Movement

(The following is the text of a statement, "For a United Socialist Ticket in the 1958 Elections—A Proposal to the Radical Movement," by the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y. It was printed as an advertisement in the Feb. 3 National Guardian, an independent radical weekly published at 197 E. 4th St., New York 9, N. Y.)

In considering what to do in the 1958 elections, we have reached the conclusion that an unusual opportunity for running joint slates in some key areas now faces the various socialist tendencies.

We are of the opinion, moreover, that a united socialist ticket, challenging the two parties of Big Business, would meet with the approval and perhaps the enthusiasm of tens and even hundreds of thousands of militant workers.

For example, the response to the Socialist Workers candidates in the 1957 New York, Detroit and San Francisco elections indicates widespread sentiment among radical-minded workers for independent socialist electoral activity.

In addition, the stand taken by the National Guardian and such representative radical spokesmen as Vincent Hallinan, Muriel McAvoy, Warren K. Billings, George Hitchcock, and George Olshausen in favor of the Socialist Workers candidates as against the capitalist tickets, despite important disagreements with them on a number of questions, provides persuasive evidence, we believe, for the view that common action by the various socialist tendencies is possible.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PLATFORM

Can this promising beginning in 1957 lead to something more substantial in 1958? We believe it can. A united campaign in 1958 might well end the present isolation of the American socialist movement and bring it into the main stream of political life where it rightfully belongs.

The first step in working for a united socialist ticket, it seems to us, is to open a discussion on its feasibility.

In our opinion it should be possible to work out a platform on which the various tendencies can agree for the purpose of combined action in the 1958 elections. Once this is achieved, the organization of the campaign, the choice of candidates and electioneering plans should not offer too many difficulties.

To start the discussion, we suggest that the following propositions, with such elabora-

tion or modification as may finally be agreed upon, be included as planks in the platform of a united socialist ticket for 1958:

(1) Socialism offers a realistic alternative to the insane drive towards thermonuclear war which the two parties of Big Business have been conducting. Replace the bipartisan, cold-war, imperialist foreign policy of the Democrats and Republicans with a socialist policy of friendship and aid to the countries of the Soviet orbit and the colonial peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America who are fighting for their freedom. End the atom-bomb tests. Dismantle the stockpiles of atomic weapons.

(2) Socialism offers the only permanent solution to the problem of capitalist depression. As an immediate measure to counterbalance the decline in employment, shorten the work-week at no decrease in take-home pay. Let the government guarantee full employment or adequate permanent relief. Convert the armaments program into a program of public works.

DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

(3) Socialism can realize the full equality and brotherhood of all races and nationalities. Right now let the labor movement rally full support to the struggle of the Negro people for their civil rights and civil liberties. For effective FEPC legislation. For immediate enforcement of the Supreme Court order to end desegregation in the schools.

(4) Socialism stands for the deepening and extension of democracy. Repeal the witch-hunt legislation at home and free such political prisoners as Morton Sobell, Gil Green, Henry Winston and Irving Potash. For political freedom throughout the Soviet bloc. End the ballot restrictions on minority parties in the United States.

(5) Socialists favor the building of a labor party based on the unions and would urge a party to adopt a socialist program. In the absence of a labor party, the socialist movement calls on unionists to register their protest against the anti-labor policies of the capitalist parties by voting socialist. Against the support of capitalist parties and candidates; for independent political action.

We urge that our proposal for a united socialist ticket in 1958 be considered with fraternal understanding. We want to arrive at the most effective electoral policy in 1958 and are ready to consider all other viewpoints. May we hear from you either directly or through your comments to the National Guardian?

Egypt and Syria Form Single Arab State

By Myra Tanner Weiss

The Arab answer to the attempt to bolster the U.S.-sponsored Baghdad Pact came in the announcement in Cairo on Feb. 1 of the formation of a new state, the United Arab Republic, unifying Egypt and Syria. The union of these two Arab countries met with great popular enthusiasm in both Cairo and Damascus. It had been planned since 1956, and preliminary to it the armies of the two countries had been placed under joint command.

After the election of the National Front in Jordan in October 1956, the plans for union also included that country. But the military coup of King Hussein, carried through with the aid of the U.S. Sixth Fleet, crushed the democratically elected Parliament last spring and prevented the fusion of Jordan with Syria as a first step in the unification of both with Egypt.

Primary value of the Egypt-Syria merger is a political one — strengthening Egypt and Syria as an attractive pole for all Arab countries — namely, Jordan, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia as well as Iraq which is lined up in the

Baghdad pact. The present rulers of these countries are stooges of imperialism but the Arab populations exert strong pressure toward independence from Western control. There is speculation now that the small country of Yemen at the southern tip of the Arabian peninsula is already preparing to federate with the new state.

Syria was under French rule as a "protectorate" after the first world war. Egypt was dominated by Britain through the Egyptian King Farouk. The U.S. and Britain welcomed France's loss in Syria as their gain. And the United States sought to make inroads in Egypt as the British got squeezed out. But the Arab peoples were not satisfied to exchange one master for another. Two factors made a greater degree of national independence possible: the revolutionary capacity of the Arab masses to struggle — as demonstrated in the wake of the French-English-Israeli attack on Egypt in 1956 — and the readiness of the Soviet Union to answer Western trade and financial boycotts with attractive trade and arms deals.

The pro-Western Arab govern-

ments were quick to reply with a different kind of "unity." On the same day the Egypt-Syria union was announced, Feb. 1, King Hussein of Jordan invited King Faisal of Iraq and King Saud of Saudi Arabia to confer on the question of the need to unite the Arab peoples.

Asked if this proposal meant union of all Arab countries or just the three invited to confer, a "reliable source," according to the N. Y. Times, Feb. 2, replied that "it is quite natural that when they get together, the kings will first discuss the realization of unity among their countries, which we hope will bring to reality the old dream of Arab nationalists."

This conference of pro-imperialist Arab rulers is not likely to impress the Arab peoples who understand all too well the subordination these monarchs to the United States and Britain. But the imperialist powers are desperate for some reply to the powerful political appeal of the Syria-Egypt merger.

The New York Times editors, in a veritable frenzy of rage, likened Nasser to Hitler, Feb. 4, and hailed the "more logical" pro-

posal for union of the "anti-Communist Arab states." Certainly Nasser is no democrat. He is a military dictator. But the imperialist powers have no case in condemning Nasser while embracing the far less popular and far more tyrannical absolute monarchies of Jordan, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

The union of Egypt and Syria may well mean at least a temporary curtailment of democratic rights for the Syrian people. Syria has enjoyed a far greater degree of democracy than has Egypt. Part of the merger agreement is the decision to dissolve the contending political parties of Syria into one political organization, the National Front.

Nasser, who is proposed as the President of the United Arab Republic, will have the power to appoint a national Cabinet, a national Legislature and two executive councils for the transitional period. He will appoint three Egyptians to one Syrian to the new government bodies — roughly equivalent to their present proportional strength.

Denial of Jersey Hall to Radicals Hit by ACLU

NEWARK, Feb. 4 — The American Civil Liberties Union today protested actions by red-baiters here and in nearby Paterson trampling on the rights to free speech and assembly. Rental of a hall was cancelled here for a meeting scheduled to hear Tim Wohlforth, editor of the Young Socialist. Last month, in Paterson, a meeting hall rented for a reception for Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and Martha Stone of the Communist Party was cancelled. The hall cancelled for the Wohlforth meeting is in the Masonic Auditorium, 188 Belmont Avenue. On Jan. 31, the rental payment was returned along with a letter which stated: "It is learned by the management, through sources which cannot be disclosed, that the name of your organization is 'Un-American' and not the labor group as designated. Therefore, it is the policy . . . not to allow such groups to meet in the building."

Bronx Reception To Honor Eliz. Gurley Flynn

FEB. 3—The Bronx Committee for Civil Liberties is sponsoring a reception for Elizabeth Gurley Flynn on Saturday, Feb. 22, 8:30 P.M., at 693 Allerton Ave., in the Bronx, New York. Miss Flynn spent three years in Alderson federal prison after being framed on Smith-Act charges. Ironically, it was only after men and women like her had been convicted and served their sentences that the Supreme Court ruled against some of the unjust features of the Smith-Act, making convictions much more difficult to obtain. As a result of these Supreme Court decisions in June of last year, new Smith-Act cases were dropped. But the limitations placed thereby on the persecution of workers for their political views came too late to save Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and others from years in prison. At the reception Miss Flynn will be greeted by Ammon Hennacy, "Pop" Mindel and others. A musical program has been arranged and refreshments will be served. A contribution of \$1.00 will be asked from those attending.

Socialist Studies Program To Feature Nathan, Lamont

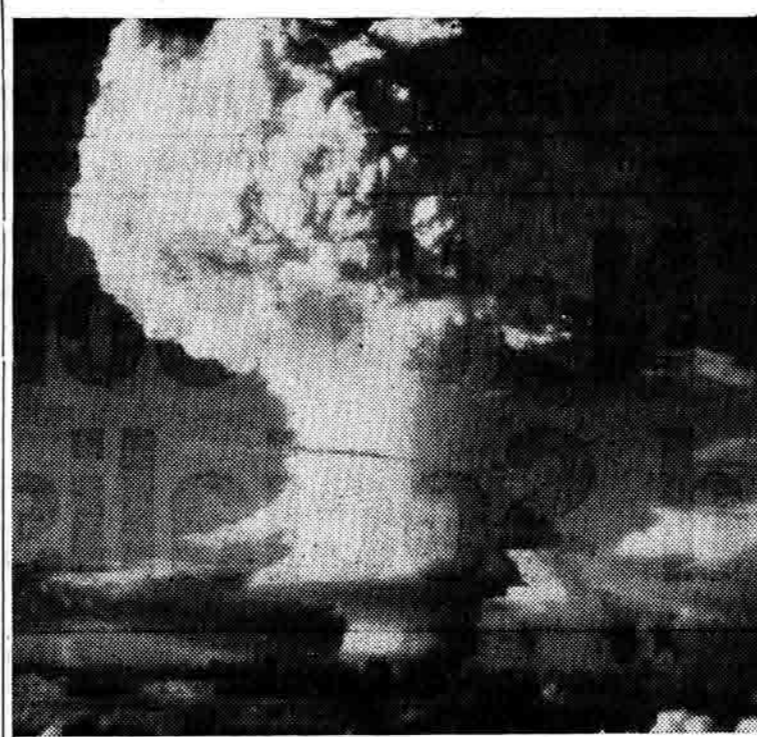
The Socialist Unity Forum has announced its Winter Session of "A Program of Socialist Studies." Corliss Lamont and Dr. Barrows Dunham will deliver six lectures on "A Philosophy for Socialists." The class will be held on Tuesdays beginning Feb. 11, at 6:45 P.M. Dr. Otto Nathan will speak under the heading, "A Socialist Looks at the American Economy." He will discuss boom and depression, prices, wages and inflation, international trade, and imperialism. His eight lectures will be on Tues-

days, beginning Feb. 11, at 8:30 P.M. Kumar Goshal, of the National Guardian, will give six lectures on the social and political developments in China and India. Classes will be held on Wednesdays, beginning Feb. 12, at 8:45 P.M. Science writer Irving Adler will head six sessions on "Science and Modern Life." Dr. Chandler Davis, of Columbia University, and Dr. Vernon King, a research chemist, will be guest lecturers. The sessions are on Wednesdays, beginning Feb. 12, at 8:30 P.M. "The Contemporary Novel — English and American" will be the theme of eight lectures by Dr. Annette T. Rubenstein on Thursdays, beginning Feb. 13, at 6:45 P.M. Dr. Stanley Moore will give six lectures on "State and Society," dealing with various Marxist and non-Marxist concepts of the state, on Thursdays, beginning Feb. 13, at 8:30 P.M. All classes will be held at Adelphi Hall, 74 Fifth Ave., New York. Admission for single lectures is \$1.50. Six lecture courses are \$7.50 and eight lecture courses are \$10. A 20% reduction will be made for couples or for registrants in two courses.

Nathan Discusses War and Peace

By George Lavan

"War and Peace in the Atomic Age" was the subject of a lecture by Dr. Otto Nathan, distinguished Marxist economist and executor of the estate of his late friend, Albert Einstein, before the Militant Labor Forum in New York City on Feb. 1. The interest of the audience of 100 in the speaker's views was attested by the prolongation of the question-and-answer period by popular demand for well over an hour. After the adjournment a large portion of the audience remained for informal discussions of the subject of the evening. Dr. Nathan's thesis was that "war in the atomic age is qualitatively different from what war was in the pre-atomic age." The principal differences were that the imperialist wars between capitalist nations such as we have known in the past are today unlikely. What we face today is "a war which would be fought for an ideology to determine what kind of an economic and political system should exist throughout the world."



This poisonous mushroom cloud was released by the explosion of a giant hydrogen bomb at the United States testing site at Eniwetok in the Pacific. Realization that an H-bomb war could mean the end of civilization has made the fight for peace the number one issue confronting humanity.

SOURCE OF WAR DANGER

Analyzing the development of this antagonism in the last 12 years of cold war, Dr. Nathan called the audience's attention particularly to an article by Joseph Hansen ("Three Programs for Peace") in the Winter issue of International Socialist Review. While declaring that he neither gave nor had given blanket justification to all the acts of the Soviet government in the cold war, the speaker said: "But I am quite convinced, as Mr. Hansen is, that we [the United States] have been more aggressive. And I think if we honestly understand the nature of the conflict, the capitalist nation must be more aggressive . . ."

In addition to what he termed the "ideological" character of the threatening war, Dr. Nathan declared a second change is its total involvement of civilian populations. Unlike World War I which, outside of the combat zones, did not physically endanger the civilian populations, World War II began with the bombing of cities. But, the U. S., because of its favored geographical position, was not bombed. "But, my friends, if war should come today the entire territory of the world would be war territory." Dr. Nathan, himself a victim of the witch hunt who has distinguished himself by his principled stand against the House Un-American Activities Committee and the passport division of the State Department, then gave an eloquent description of yet another change that modern war has brought about. This is the perversion of values and institutions in peacetime by the preparations for H-bomb war. Not only is there a slashing of all social benefits and legislation but a total "security" or witch hunt preparation of the home front is undertaken.

The decisive change however, the speaker said, is the change in the character of weapons. He cited the findings of the scientific conference called by Bertrand Russell in England in 1955. At that conference, Dr. Nathan recounted, he first realized that if H-bombs were used every human being in the world might be annihilated, Einstein and Russell warned that mankind now faced "the risk of universal death."

... Young Socialists Hold Parley

(Continued from page 1) Army Security and Civil Liberties. Gil Turner of New York spoke on "The Right to Travel." The case of Morton Sobell was presented by Gene Tournour of St. Louis. Steve Max of New York spoke on "Freedom for Political Prisoners — the Green, Winston Case." Sam Reed, a defendant in the Cleveland Taft-Hartley case, spoke on his fight against government persecution.

The final session of the Conference was devoted to a discussion of the youth paper, the Young Socialist. Tim Wohlforth, its editor, discussed the policy of the paper and the problem of extending its circulation, especially to high school and working-class youth. Norman Hodgett of Denver described the successful campaigns on several campuses to assure

the individual's "reliability." "This is clearly a mechanism for restricting political activity," she said. Gil Turner of New York reviewed the case of the 42 students who traveled to China in defiance of the State Department ban. "We are not going to let the State Department tell us where we can go," Mr. Turner said, "although we reserve the right to tell them at some time in the future where they can go." Both the Justice Department and the courts have a stake in preventing justice for Morton Sobell, declared Gene Tournour of St. Louis. If Sobell's conviction is reversed, the government thereby admits something was wrong with the case against the Rosenbergs, now executed. Sobell himself was convicted on the testimony of one witness, a confessed perjurer. The charge against Sobell was that he allegedly engaged in certain

possessing its own military force, and with various changes such as end of the great-power veto.

Saying that he knew many would be completely opposed to his proposal, Dr. Nathan continued: "But as socialists we must have the abolition of war as our guidepost. . . Unless we build a world movement against war the abolition of war will never come."

DISCUSSION PERIOD

In the lively discussion period that followed, all speakers agreed with Dr. Nathan about the paramount need of socialists to crusade for world peace. However, many challenged as unrealistic his belief that America's capitalist ruling class would ever agree to permanent and total disarmament or to world government in which it would have to abide by the majority vote of all nations.

A crusade to abolish war will get an increasingly favorable response from the American working people, one speaker said. Socialists must organize that sentiment, expose American Big Business as the source of the war danger, and work for the elimination of its rule and for the democratic rule of the working people. This would lead to world peace and to socialism.

Dr. Nathan defended his views vigorously, and from the stimulating clash of ideas many interesting arguments emerged. However, it is quite safe to say that when the chairman reluctantly declared the meeting adjourned the question remained far from exhausted or settled.

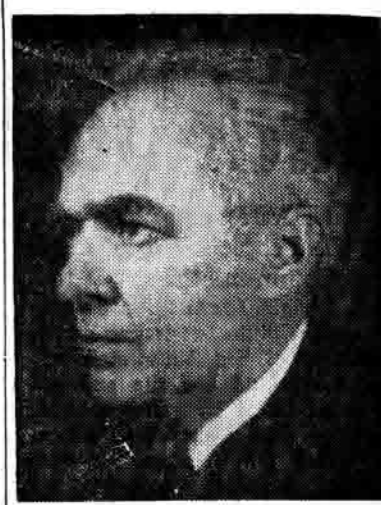
'WORKER' ATTACK

Several weeks prior to Dr. Nathan's appearance at the Militant Labor Forum, the weekly newspaper, The Worker, refused to accept a paid advertisement of the forum could get no explanation or justification of this action from the management of the Worker. The next issue (Feb. 2) of that paper, however, carried a news item to the effect that Dr. Nathan would speak at the Militant Labor Forum on Feb. 1. This was followed by the statement: "A paid advertisement making the United Nations an organization with obligatory membership for all countries, was rejected by The Worker."

Dr. Nathan, a veteran fighter for peace, is honored by The Worker. The Trotskyites, who term 'peaceful coexistence' as 'international class collaboration' are another matter entirely. The Worker does not care to accept their ads."

It was in reference to the banning of the advertisement for the meeting that Dr. Nathan said in his opening remarks: "I feel honored that I was asked to appear before you tonight. . . . And I feel it my duty to accept. Whether it is the Militant or Socialist Workers Party, or whether it is the Communist Party, or whether it is any independent forum — wherever freedom of speech is guaranteed, I shall be there."

"And I wish we would deal with each other with humility and tolerance, that we would not deny to each other the announcement of one another's lectures. . . . I hope that the Militant would not do the same as that other newspaper tried



OTTO NATHAN

to do with the announcement of this meeting. Unless we accord to one another . . . tolerance and decency we shall never be able to build up the kind of movement which we all hope for."

'Future of U.S. Socialism' Topic At Bronx Forum

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 — A major step in extending the regroupment discussion initiated by the American Forum for Socialist Education to the New York boroughs was taken when the newly formed Bronx Socialist Forum held its first public symposium last Sunday.

A lively crowd of experienced socialist activists of various political tendencies heard four speakers discuss "The Future of Socialism in the United States." Close to a majority of those present were young people, deeply interested in the controversial issues. The four speakers were Dr. Albert Blumberg, member of the New York State Committee of the Communist Party, Farrell Dobbs, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, Joseph Clark, former foreign editor of the Daily Worker and Rev. A. J. Muste, Chairman of the American Forum for Socialist Education.

slate run on a minimum program of opposition to the U.S. government's war plans, for civil rights, against support to capitalist politicians, and for Socialism.

Joseph Clark stated he was re-reading Marx and reviewing all aspects of socialist tactics and strategy. He expressed doubt that many of Marx' tenets were valid today. He warned socialists of the dangers of self-delusion, and declared that adding all the present socialist groups together would still produce a zero. He did not indicate what form a new socialist movement would have, nor what its program would be. He advised socialists to overcome their isolation and enter the mass organizations of the workers.

Rev. A. J. Muste hailed the formation of the Bronx Forum as widening the circles of socialist discussion initiated by the American Forum. While pointing out that the Bronx Forum is not now affiliated with the AFSE, he said he welcomed its establishment and was giving it every assistance in getting started.

Dr. Blumberg was the first to speak. He began with an analysis of the low ebb in which the socialist movement finds itself today. He cited three reasons for this ebb: McCarthyism, the expansion of U.S. capitalism following World War II and the errors of the radical parties. The latter consisted of five mistakes, according to Blumberg. "The socialist movement in all of its varieties has been the victim of sectarian practices," he said. In addition socialists had a "dogmatic and intolerant attitude." Thirdly, "We Communists were wrong in thinking we had some kind of monopoly" on socialism. But, Blumberg added, "We are not going to relinquish this monopoly so that other groups can claim a monopoly."

Members of the audience participated in a lively discussion. Several speakers supported the proposal for a united socialist ticket. Others argued against the idea that the American left had accomplished nothing in the past, and must scrap everything and start all over. Literature of several tendencies was on hand. Arrangements were made to keep the audience informed and to invite their participation in planning future affairs of the Socialist Forum in the Bronx.

... Prominent Radicals Back Wright

(Continued from page 1) in the Jan. 11 People's World where he wrote: "At this writing, only one candidate, Jack Wright, a molder, has taken a flat position against the city sales tax. Wright is a delegate to the Central Labor Council as well as to the Metal Trades Council. . ."

should give him all support. In addition, they should feel grateful to him and the Socialist Workers Party for the sacrifice of their time and labor in presenting the electorate with an opportunity to learn and approve Socialist principles. I hope this campaign results in victory, at least to the extent of procuring enough votes to encourage support in future struggles."

WANTS RACE AGAINST JACKSON
In response to a question, Pettus said he would be inclined to favor the idea now being discussed among socialist groups of an independent ticket for the coming Congressional elections. Pettus said it might be even more desirable to run a candidate against U.S. Senator Jackson who will be up for re-election. A liberal Democrat, Jackson has been one of the strongest supporters of the suicidal arms race. Last night a highly enthusiastic rally in support of Jack Wright warmly received the following message from Vincent Hallinan: "The candidacy of Jack Wright gives added impetus to the Socialist Movement. Liberal forces

DR. C. H. FISHER'S STAND
Another gratifying message of support came to the rally from Dr. C. H. Fisher, President of the Washington Pension Union. Dr. Fisher wrote: "We had the pleasure of hearing Jack Wright, City Council candidate, speak to the regular Sunday Afternoon Forum of the Pension Union, and we who heard him are in complete sympathy with his program and endorse his position on the questions of the day. We are glad he is running as an independent and socialist candidate, and wish him success in his campaign."

platform. . . . The nation is in dire need of alternatives and one such alternative is the election of socialists to public office. I wish to make it clear, however, that my endorsement of your candidacy does not include endorsement of the Socialist Workers Party per se. I feel it more important at this time to unite all socially inclined individuals behind outspoken socialist candidates, irrespective of party affiliation and without championing any particular organization. . . . One of the featured speakers at the rally was the noted civil liberties attorney, Jay Sykes, who is particularly well known for his defense of the Pension Union before the witch-hunting Subversive Activities Control Board. He urged the audience, which represented a cross section of the various radical tendencies, to support Wright's campaign and to think in terms of a united socialist ticket in the coming Congressional and state elections. The meeting was ably chaired by Dot Davis, one of the best known and loved personalities in the Pension Union. Stressing the need for independent labor political action, she said that her own recent appreciation of the importance of such a course was the basis for her presiding at the rally for Jack Wright."

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Vol. XXIII - No. 6

Monday, February 10, 1958

That '54 Support to Harriman

On Feb. 4 Democratic Governor Harriman of New York recommended reenactment of the witch-hunting Security Risk Law...

Harriman's moves to prolong the witch-hunt atmosphere call to mind his election in 1954...

High Priest of the Dollar

That outstanding hypocrite of our time, pietistical, sanctimonious Secretary of State Dulles...

Now that a wave of anti-U.S. imperialism is sweeping Latin America...

It Won't Help the Teamster Ranks

One Federal judge, Hoffa's lawyers, and lawyers representing 13 members of the Teamsters union have usurped the prerogatives of the union's membership...

The suit which gave rise to the deal was filed last fall in the name of 13 IBT members who charged that 50% of the delegates to the September IBT convention had not been selected according to the union's constitution...

The trial was begun in December and attorneys for the 13 members rested their case last week...

To watch over the "good faith" of the IBT officials, a three-man board of monitors was agreed upon...

"Give Me that Pencil; I'm a 'Communist' Too"

By Ruth Norton

For those who in the past years may have experienced apathy and red-baiting while trying to get petitions signed for some working-class or civil liberties cause...

"Sure I'll sign. I have no money, no job, and it doesn't look like the situation is getting any better. I don't have anything to lose."

wars. I'm all for you. Seems to me we've been needing socialism for a long time. 13 YEARS WITH FIRM Another man said bitterly: "You know, I've been with one company for 13 years—13 years. Had seniority, a good job. And what did it get me? The company picked up and moved. Now I have no job—I don't have anything."

13,739 business failures were recorded by Dun and Bradstreet for 1957, the highest since 1939 and a sharp rise from the 2,686 business casualties recorded in 1956.

Form National Group To Aid Spanish Sailors

JAN. 20 — Organization of the Committee to Defend the Anti-Franco Sailors, headed by a group of labor and civic representatives, was announced by the Workers Defense League.

The committee will raise funds for appealing the cases of five Spanish Sailors facing deportation to Spain where they would face years of imprisonment or death...

Francis Heister, west coast attorney for the Workers Defense League has joined A. L. Wirin, southern California attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union as defense lawyer.

The case is now before the ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and in the event of an adverse decision it will be taken to the U.S. Supreme Court. The five sailors defected from a Spanish ship in San Diego harbor because of their anti-Franco convictions...

In recent oral argument before the appeals courts, Judge Chase A. Clark asked the U.S. attorney: "Since the Mexican

government admits it made a mistake in returning these sailors to the United States and is now willing to grant them political asylum, why doesn't the Immigration Service and the American State Department permit that?"

More Los Angeles Unions Back 5

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 28 — Union support continues to mount in the case of the Five Spanish Sailors as the five are waiting for a court decision following a December hearing.

The large United Shoe Workers, Local 122, passed a resolution protesting "the jeopardizing of the lives of the five Spanish sailors in consideration of such agreements as the granting of U.S. air bases in Franco's totalitarian Spain."

"As trade unionists," the resolution said, "we express our solidarity not only with the five sailors but the workers of Spain who are crushed by Franco's Falange."

Local 116 of the Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers passed a similar resolution, backed up by a \$10 donation.

The lead story in the January "On The Beam," issued by Local 2058 of the United Steel Workers, was on the local's support of the Spanish sailors.

"On The Beam" pointed out that "In Franco Spain, the unions are outlawed. The Spanish workers' living standards are the lowest in western Europe. In view of these facts, it is not difficult to understand why the five Spanish sailors are politically opposed to their government."

Local 2058 sent in \$25 to support the sailors in their court case.

Happiest news of financial support locally is that the Joe Springer Committee, which has successfully concluded its own civil liberties fight, is donating \$200 to the Committee to Save the Five Spanish Sailors.

Local 2058 sent in \$25 to support the sailors in their court case. Happiest news of financial support locally is that the Joe Springer Committee...

USSR Reports '57 Economic Data

Through Radio Moscow the Soviet Union made public on Jan. 27 its economic report for 1957. According to an AP dispatch from London the report said there were 37 million metric tons of pig iron produced, an increase of 4% over the previous year...

Seek Funds to Publish Book of Gray Cartoons

A number of messages received from various parts of the country to be read at the Laura Gray memorial meeting held in New York on January 16 strongly urged the publication, in book form, of a selection of her cartoons covering the period from 1944 to the time of her death in January 1958.

When the idea was projected at the memorial meeting it received an enthusiastic response. Over \$350 was pledged at the meeting to defray the expense of publication. Since then several small contributions have been received to finance a memorial edition of Laura Gray's cartoons...

Each contributor donating \$5.00 or over, will be entitled to receive a copy of the book. Contributions should be sent to Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

The MESA Educator, published by the Mechanics Educational Society of America, AFL-CIO, reprinted Laura Gray's famous "Live Plants, Dead Men; Dead Plants, Live Men" cartoon in its January issue with the following comment: "The cartoon printed above is . . . by the very fine labor artist, Laura Gray. Her recent untimely death is a loss to workers everywhere. We join others in saying 'Thanks, Laura, your contribution was mighty.'"

(We have received further

The Only Victor



Reprinted from the Militant, August 18, 1945

messages from individuals and organizations expressing sorrow over the death of Laura Gray. We print excerpts below.)

"If a book of her cartoons is to be published, place my name at the head of the list of purchasers. I only hope you will not forget to include my favorite, the crocodile tears. . . . With deepest sympathy.

B. M. Cambridge, Mass.

"Here in England we have reproduced her work on many occasions, and I think it is true to say that she was as

much appreciated by militant workers here as in the USA. This was especially true during the Korean War, when it became necessary to hold the banner of socialism aloft with firm hands.

London

We who knew Laura quite well personally realize what a loss her death is, both in terms of the wonderful human being she was and in terms of her contributions to our struggle by her cartoons which we looked forward to every week.

E. H. S. Paris

3 Unions Score Gains In St. Paul Press Strike

By Winifred Nelson

ST. PAUL, Feb. 1—St. Paul's 46-day-old newspaper strike ended in victory at noon today, when members of four striking unions voted to accept the report of their negotiating committees.

The Newspaper Guild was the last of five unions at the St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer Press to reach agreement in contract talks. (The Stereotypers were not on strike but had thrown in their contract demands with the striking unions.)

Principal demands of all the striking unions were won, including a two-year contract (which only the News Guild opposed) with wage raises of from 10 to 14 cents the first year for most workers and an additional 10 cents the second year; reduction of hours from 37 1/2 to 36 1/4 for Stereotypers, Mailers and Machinists (they had asked for 35 hours) and a five-day week for 30 country newspaper salesmen in the News Guild who had been working six days. Fringe benefits were also won—increased hospitalization and severance pay, job reclassification, jury duty and holiday pay for Typos and Guild members. The Mailers union accepted a company offer on manning (more men to handle the work) which was not disclosed.

However, nearly half of the striking Guild members, those in the lower wage brackets, received smaller wage increases. These are the workers who most badly need more pay, for the great majority are underpaid clerical help.

The lie was given to the company statement that the 27 members of the Mailers union caused the strike, which idled 900 workers, when that union settled last Tuesday, ahead of the Guild. In truth, it was the company who provoked the strike. Confident that they would not lose their monopoly profits, the Ridder family (only newspaper publishers in St. Paul) carried strike insurance, a new gimmick of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, which insured their profits while they tried to starve out the strikers and break their unions!

A NEWS LETTER Last week the Ridder sent out a "news letter without a union label" (in the words of the Union Advocate, St. Paul's Trades and Labor Assembly's official organ) to all the residents of this city. In it, they

spoke of the exorbitant demands of the striking unions, the wonderful wages and working conditions at their newspaper, the willingness of management to arbitrate.

"Open the books!" was the demand of the Union Advocate in answer to this boss propaganda. In the issue of Jan. 23, the Advocate challenged the company: "Tell all the people, you owners of the D-PP (Dispatch-Pioneer Press), how out of the profits of the D-PP and its use as collateral for loans to buy other properties that quickly paid for themselves out of their own profits, your publishing family was able to build the following newspaper, radio and television empire." And the Advocate went on to list holdings of the Ridder — two daily papers, radio and TV stations in Duluth, Minn.; a daily newspaper and radio station in Grand Forks, N. D.; three other daily papers in San Jose, Long Beach and Pasadena, Calif.; a big interest in a large TV station in the Twin Cities and in Seattle, Wash.; daily paper — and then apologized if he had left out any of the Ridder properties!

All this flies in the face of the company's plea of inability to pay made prior to the strike. Their "newsletter" also tries to cover up workers' reports that company spokesmen had predicted the strike before it happened, and statements of the striking unions on intolerable working conditions in the plant.

"They scarcely dare stop to blow their noses," said Harold Hol, president of the Mailers union, in a statement to the

St. Paul Sentinel, daily strike newspaper, describing the speed-up conditions in the mailing room where the same number of mailers handle papers coming off today's high-speed presses as they did with the slower press runs of a decade ago.

Typographical workers have complained about the lack of adequate rest-room time to attend to personal needs, and circulation department employees have long been poorly paid, with some workers in both departments being barred from the unions in control there. And all the striking unions have objected to the pay differential with Minneapolis, St. Paul's twin city, where newspaper wages are higher and working conditions better.

In spite of company efforts to discourage public support, "the citywide spirit of sympathy and support for the strikers has become more widespread each week," according to the Union Advocate. Support of the strike paper was such that the Sentinel found it had to double its press run and more than double its size to keep up with the demand. This, despite a boycott of the Sentinel for advertising purposes by the big department stores who issued their own "Downtown St. Paul News" rather than support the strike paper.

Solidarity of the organized labor movement was expressed throughout the strike in many ads taken in the Sentinel wishing good luck and a speedy victory. It helped considerably in winning the strike.

Calendar of Events

- Chicago: Friday, Feb. 14, 8:15 P.M. "Prospects for American Labor in 1958."
Detroit: See the great American film, "Salt of the Earth."
Los Angeles: Negro History Week Celebration: (1) "Songs of Free Men"

World Events

"TREASON" FRAME-UP IN S. AFRICA reached a new stage as 95 of the originally arrested 156 opponents of the government's apartheid (white supremacy) policy were committed for trial. Since the mass arrests of Dec. 1956, these African, colored and white leaders have been subjected to one of the longest "preliminary" examinations in history. The indictment charges "high treason" for which the maximum penalty is death. If not convicted of treason, the defendants can be sentenced under the Suppression of Communism Act. Though the accused are mostly liberals, pacifists and fighters for racial equality, the South African government has by law declared that opposition to racism constitutes "communism." Contributions for the legal defense and to aid in supporting the families of the defendants, who have been prevented from working by the year-long "preliminary" examination, may be sent to: South Africa Defense Fund, 4 West 40th St., N. Y. 18, N. Y.

THE BAHAMAS ISLANDS constitution has come under attack by Labor Party members of the parliament in Great Britain. They are demanding that a commission of inquiry be sent to the West Indian colony. The recent 18-day general strike in Nassau, principal city of the Bahamas, was as much a political movement by the Negro workers, who constitute the overwhelming majority of the population, as an economic strike. A tiny handful of ruling white proprietors control the Bahamas by effectively disfranchising the Negroes and by maintaining such laws as that which forbids hotel workers from organizing unions.

INDONESIA has cancelled two oil field concessions of a subsidiary of the Royal Dutch Shell interests. CUBAN DICTATOR Batista eased up on press censorship and civil liberties immediately after the overthrow of Venezuela's dictator Jimenez. Nevertheless opposition to Batista continues to grow. Rebel guerrilla chief Fidel Castro's forces have become more aggressive in the eastern mountains and a "second front" has been opened up by a guerrilla force in the center of the island. Castro has announced that an "industrial" campaign is to be launched to consummate Batista's overthrow. It will feature action, including sabotage, by factory workers.

General James E. Moore, U. S. gaudier of the occupied island, ousted Kanejiro Senaga, the elected mayor of Naha, because of his leftist program and his demands that Okinawa be returned to Japan. The newly elected mayor, Saichi Kaneshi, has proved to be just as much a thorn in the side of the U. S. high commissioner. In what the U. S. papers call another anti-American (it is really anti-U.S.-occupation) vote, the people of outlying suburbs, recently united to Naha by U.S. order, elected seven city assemblymen of the Okinawa Peoples' Party — the party of Senaga and Kaneshi.

FRANCE'S PHONY LAW to "reform" its rule in Algeria was finally enacted on Jan. 31. However, all indications are that it will in no degree appease the Algerian people's desire for independence and that the civil war there will continue to rage. The rival movements leading the Algerian freedom fight, the Algerian National Movement (MNA) and National Liberation Front (FLN), both denounced the new French law and predicted that the fighting in Algeria would continue despite it.

SUCH UNPOPULARITY MUST BE DESERVED. The voters of Okinawa gave another smashing repudiation of U. S. occupation, in the Feb. 2 elections in Naha, the island's main city. Last year Lieut.

