

Step Up Smear Of Committee in Carolina Case

NEW YORK, Feb. 22—North Carolina Governor Hodges has stepped up his smear campaign against the Committee to Combat Racial Injustice. The committee, in collaboration with the NAACP, sparked the world-wide protest which compelled Carolina authorities to free James Hanover Thompson and David Simpson, the eight and ten-year-old Negro boys incarcerated because one of them had been kissed by a white playmate.

Joined by his attorney general and racist papers in the state, Hodges is shouting far and wide that the CCRI has raised a huge sum of money which its members are using to line their own pockets and that the committee is a "Communist Front." At the same time vilification of Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Simpson, the mothers of the two boys, is being continued.

A speech on the case Feb. 16 in Charlotte, N. C., by Attorney General Seawell was headlined in the Charlotte News, "Kiss Case' Fund Raisers Attacked." The Charlotte Observer pitched it as "Big Money Seen in Kiss-

ing Case." Seawell asserted that release of the two boys from the reformatory "marked the end of a financial harvest" for the CCRI and that the committee had collected money for the boys in various Northern cities but that "none of the money had found its way back to the two Negro children or their families."

Governor Hodges, at state expense, is sending out, apparently to everyone who ever wrote him on the case, a letter accusing the CCRI of "exploiting" the case, along with a large sheet of reprints from the Winston-Salem (N.C.) Journal & Sentinel. These articles bear such headlines as "Propaganda Campaign is On — Communist Front Shouts 'Kiss Case' to World" and "Communist Front Propagandizes the 'Kissing Case.'"

The articles assert that the CCRI has raised "substantial amounts of money" and that "there has been no accounting of the amounts collected." They claim that the CCRI has raised "at least \$15,000 as of now" (Feb. 8) and that "the NAACP, the Simpson and Thompson families have not received one dime from the Committee."

In a statement issued here yesterday, the CCRI branded these charges as "downright, deliberate lies." To expose the slanderous charge of monetary gain, the CCRI issued a public financial statement even though it has been in existence less than ten weeks. The itemized report shows that as of Feb. 15, a total of \$1,270.49 had been contributed directly to the committee.

This money, plus a \$300 deficit, was expended for travel expenses, legal fees, publicity and printing, stationery, mimeograph supplies and postage. No salaries or wages were paid by the committee since all of its activity has been carried on by volunteer workers.

A contribution of \$135 was made by the committee to the Thompson and Simpson families. This amount was not more, the CCRI explains, because when the NAACP entered the case it assumed the responsibility for financial assistance to both families.

The CCRI statement points out that the effectiveness of the mass protest evoked by its effort.

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Castro Probes U.S. Companies

By Lillian Kiezol

Two American-owned public utilities, Cuban Electric and Cuban Telephone, are being investigated by the Castro government as part of a general probe into government contracts with private companies hold some of the best land in Cuba. Castro's land reform program calls for dividing up government-owned land first and then uncultivated lands which will be bought from the plantation owners by the government.

Although the sections of American big business with holdings in Cuba are acting with caution and circumspection at the moment in hope of riding out the revolutionary storm, others with rival interests appear less concerned about moves that might provoke the Cuban people.

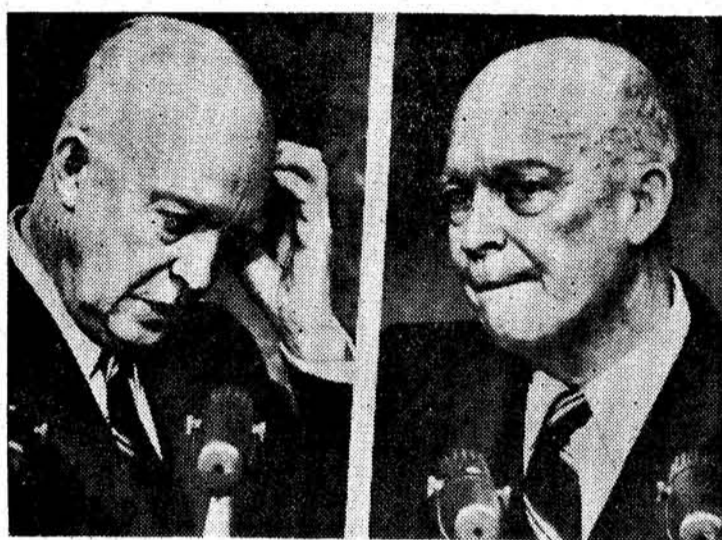
Senator Ellender, Democrat from the sugar-producing state of Louisiana, for instance, issued a thinly veiled threat last week when he said that Castro is responsible for delaying extension of the quotas under the United States Sugar Act which assigns the amount of sugar other countries can market in the U.S.

Castro was reported by Associated Press to have answered: "For the most insignificant reasons they threaten us with taking away the sugar quota. I am tired of that."

In a TV speech on Feb. 19 he declared: "If Russia wants sugar we'll sell it to her. We have a right to solve our problems."

Reuther-Meany Propose Jobless Meet in Capital

"It May Be the Only Way"



In these two candid snapshots, Pres. Eisenhower appears to be seriously considering AFL-CIO Pres. Meany's recent ironic suggestion that the only alternative to providing effective aid for the jobless is "to shoot ten per cent of the population."

General Strike Hits Belgian Coal Mines

FEB. 25 — While the Belgian government deployed troops in the Congo to preserve its rule against the rising freedom movement, it was hit at home by a general strike

of more than 100,000 coal miners that lasted almost a week, ending yesterday. The government answered the strikers in much the same way it has answered the Congolese fighters for independence — with troops, clubs, tear gas and jailings.

An estimated 23,000 miners walked out in the Borinage coal basin 12 days ago when the government announced plans to shut down "uneconomic" mines in the area employing some 6,000 men. On Feb. 18 the Socialist Trade Union Federation called for a general mine strike in solidarity with the Borinage workers. Over 100,000 responded in a militant demonstration of determination not to let the government and mine operators make them the victims of a growing crisis in the industry.

The strikers did not win their demand that the shutdown order be rescinded. Instead, their leaders accepted a compromise under which the government will guarantee to resettle and find work for those displaced.

In fighting for continued operation of the mines, the strikers were bucking not only the Belgian government but also the other countries belonging to the European Coal and Steel Community. The "community" is a common market operation including Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands, West Germany and Luxembourg.

The other members of the "community" have been pressuring the Belgian government to lower coal costs by shutting down "uneconomic" mines in the Borinage basin in order to meet the competition of U.S. coal being dumped on the European market. To ease the resistance of the workers affected by this, the Belgian government was given \$120 million to retrain and re-employ displaced miners. Instead the government handed the money over to the operators in the form of a \$6-a-ton subsidy to lower prices.

Belgian coal came into heavy surplus. Seven million tons were left unsold at the end of last year and the figure is expected to rise to 14 million by the end of this year. This brought the abrupt government decision to shut down the most unprofitable mines with brutal disregard of the fate of the 6,000 men involved.

The Borinage miners have a stirring history of militant struggle and a strong revolutionary socialist tradition. In this strike they demonstrated that their fighting capacity has not been lost. When four of their leaders were arrested in one area, they marched 2,000 strong to the local jail in the face of tear gas and fire hoses.

With the mines solidly shut, they acted to extend the effectiveness of their action des-

Dodge Local Unemployed Study Action

DETROIT, Feb. 18 — The unemployed members of Dodge Local 3 organized themselves long before Walter Reuther and the UAW executive board established an organizational structure for this purpose. (See other story on page four.) A meeting of the Local 3 unemployed committee today showed the value of such activities.

The meeting, held in Local 3's hall, was attended by at least 300 members — which is more than the usual attendance at the local's monthly membership meeting.

Seven or eight leaders of the committee sat on the platform. None is an official of the local. The atmosphere was completely democratic. The members were attentive and demonstrative in their reactions. It was plain that they came because they feel the committee's activities will have an important part in determining whether or not they get back to work.

Chairing the meeting was Edith Van Horn, who gave a report on the UAW executive board's administrative letter telling how unemployed committees are to be formed. She was one of the delegates from the city-wide UAW Production and Skilled Workers Unemployed Committee who had appeared before the UAW executive board on Feb. 4, urging it to throw the union's full weight behind a militant program to combat unemployment. (The city-wide committee has been functioning since last November as coordinating body of several unemployed groups like Local 3's.)

Her report, expressing satisfaction over the International's active entry into the unemployed fight, was accepted without discussion.

The next report was given by Manatee Smith, a co-chairman of the city-wide committee. He told about some of its recent activities:

(1) Its appearance Monday before the DSR (transit) commission, requesting that workers getting welfare or jobless compensation be allowed to ride the city-owned buses at a half-fare of ten cents.

(2) Its participation in the recent Michigan AFL-CIO legislative conference in Lansing, where it backed the AFL-CIO proposal for payment of jobless compensation for the full period of unemployment, and

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Sign Cyprus Agreement



Greek Premier Karamanlis (left) shakes hands with Turkish Premier Menderes after they reached agreement with British to make Cyprus an independent republic. Britain will retain military bases. How Cypriotes, who wanted island returned to Greece, will react to deal remains to be seen, but they held joyful demonstrations over release of hundreds of British-held political prisoners.

Michigan Socialists Name Candidates

DETROIT, Feb. 21 — The Socialist Workers' Party, meeting in state convention here today, nominated a slate of candidates for state educational offices to be filled in the April 6 elections.

The SWP nominees are Robert Himmel for State Superintendent of Public Instruction; Evelyn Sell for University of Michigan's Board of Regents; Rita Shaw and Harriet Talan for Board of Governors of Wayne State University.

The party platform, unanimously adopted by the delegates, calls for "a public works program to build more schools; fully subsidized public educa-

Discuss Way To Dramatize Work Needs

By Harry Ring

FEB. 25 — The Executive Council of the AFL-CIO opened the possibility yesterday for effective action by the union movement in behalf of America's unemployed millions. Caught between the demand by jobless unionists for such steps as a big march on Washington and their own fear of head-on collision with the high command of the Democratic Party, the Council sought a compromise—a "mass conference" in Washington to dramatize the plight of those out of work.

United Auto Workers President Walter Reuther, speaking on behalf of the international executive board of his union, began by proposing a march on Washington. This was opposed by AFL-CIO President George Meany, who thought that a legislative conference was going far enough. After some argument, agreement was reached on holding a mass conference in Washington.

Preparation of the gathering was assigned to a special committee headed by Reuther. The committee was empowered to "develop plans for the calling of a mass conference in Washington to effectively dramatize the desperate plight of millions of unemployed workers and their families and to petition the President and Congress to take immediate, effective steps to get America back to work." A date has not yet been set for the meeting.

It can safely be assumed that the top union brass will do everything it can to limit the size, militancy and demands of the projected assembly. However, unemployed unionists have been chafing at the lack of action and may seize this opportunity to stage a demonstration that will shake the complacency in ruling circles.

SAME POSSIBILITIES

Union militants, worried about the heavy unemployment in every important industrial center in the country, can be expected to do everything possible to assure widest publicity to the project; to organize fundraising and the transportation needed to get the biggest possible jobless delegation to Washington. Many of them will undoubtedly work out dramatic send-offs for the motored.

In the past, for example, the Detroit workers have packed

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Yugoslav Communist Party spokesman Djuro Pucar derides Khrushchev's latest Stalin-type attack on Titoists as "revisionists."

Divided Germany — A Ticking Time Bomb

By Daniel Roberts

Attempts by both the Soviet and U.S. governments to ease the cold war have brought the German crisis to a head. Both sides realize that if they are to gain credit before world public opinion for relaxing cold war tensions, they must offer a solution to the problem of divided Germany. But, in truth, both sides have become so deeply involved in Germany — though each for completely different reasons — that neither side is able to offer a basic solution. This results in new acrimonious disputes between them.

In common, U.S. imperialism and the Soviet bureaucracy flouted the German people's right to self-determination when they carved up Germany at the end of World War II. Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill claimed that this policy was necessary to prevent resurgence of German militarism and would guarantee world peace. Instead, division of Germany planted a fuse for World War III which burns to this day.

Soon after World War II ended, U.S. big business launched its preparations for World

War III in which it aims at restoring capitalism throughout the Soviet bloc. By means of the Marshall plan and of heavy investments by major U.S. corporations, Wall Street rebuilt the West German capitalist structure. West Germany was then remilitarized. Today, Washington looks on the German capitalist class as a principal collaborator in the war drive. Officers of Hitler's Wehrmacht lead NATO's armies in Europe. Finally, West Germany today holds the biggest concentration of American military bases in Europe.

Victory of the European working people including the German, in their independent struggle for socialism, would have provided the Soviet Union with its most effective means of defense against U.S. imperialism's war threat. The Stalinist bureaucracy, however, stood in mortal fear of working-class revolutions, whose prospects were particularly favorable in Europe at the close of the war. Instead of helping to achieve a socialist Europe, the Stalinists lent their support to Anglo-American imperialism in sidetracking and defeating the post-

war revolutionary wave. When U.S. imperialism launched the cold war, the Stalinists relied on strengthening the buffer zone they had erected between the Soviet borders and the U.S. armies, on rebuilding the Soviet military forces, and on diplomatic moves seeking a status-quo pact with imperialism. Accordingly, the Soviet bureaucracy integrated East Germany into its buffer zone. Property relations were transformed by bureaucratic-military means, and, as in all other East European countries, the Kremlin foisted a regime of "gendarmes and bureaucrats," totally subservient to Moscow, on the people.

In line with the international thaw he is seeking, Khrushchev now proposes "confederation" of the two German governments. The treaty he proposes to the West would keep Germany neutral and disarmed. All foreign troops would leave German soil. Capitalism would be guaranteed in West Germany, while Soviet property forms would be upheld in East Germany. Fusion of the two parts would depend on negotiations between the two German

governments. Settlement along these lines would begin with U.S. recognition of the East German government. (Current Soviet moves in Berlin are designed to pressure the West to accord such recognition.)

In recent weeks there has been a distinct tendency among U.S. ruling circles to make concessions in the direction of the Kremlin's plan. "The Western powers have reached agreement among themselves that they might be willing to recognize the East Germans as 'agents' of the Soviet Union provided Moscow were ready to offer firm guarantees that the access routes [to West Berlin] would remain open," reports the Feb. 22 New York Times.

The most far-reaching proposal came from Senator Mike Mansfield (Mont.) assistant Democratic floor leader in a Feb. 12 speech in the Senate.

WANTS TALK

How are the "differing economic and social structures" in the two parts of Germany to be "fused in peace?" Mansfield asks. "It is the Germans, themselves . . . who will make the decisive decisions on unifica-

tion, if they are to be made in peace." He proposes accepting the East German government instead of the Russian troops as the valid authority in East Berlin. (This accords with the Soviet demands.) He also proposes that either a United Nations force or a "[West] German militia, fully supported by NATO guarantees," replace the French, British and U.S. occupying troops in West Berlin. Mansfield wants "talk, a great deal of talk," between the two German authorities on the problem of German unification. Finally, he proposes a mutual pullback of Soviet and Western troops "from the points of imminent contact in Germany and Central Europe."

Neither Khrushchev's nor Mansfield's proposals would remove German division or end foreign control over either part of Germany. But Western recognition of the East German government and a withdrawal of foreign troops would nominally leave settlement of the problem in German hands. This could encourage the German working people to intervene in bringing about genuine reunification of their country.

Penn. Taxes Rocket to New High

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20 — Pennsylvania workers — including the half million now jobless — are stiffening themselves for a staggering new tax load being prepared by the new Democratic state administration and a new transit fare hike by the Democratic city administration.

The tax program now before the state legislature calls for increasing the present three per cent state sales tax to three and one-half per cent. This will make it the highest in the country. Then the screws will be turned further by including a whole new range of goods and services under the sales tax and by increasing other taxes on consumer items.

If passed, the increased sales tax will now apply to those previously exempt items: telephone, gas and electric bills; repair and service charges, including such things as car washes; beer, wine and liquor; trade-in allowances on cars and appliances. The tax will also be slapped on restaurant checks over a dime, instead of over 50 cents as at present.

JOB WELL DONE

In addition, the cigarette tax will go from five to six cents and the one-cent tax on bottled soda will be restored. A thumping 25 per cent levy will be

made on cigars, tobacco, pipes, chewing tobacco and snuff.

Governor Lawrence thanked the tax study committee for its "hard work" and said he would follow its recommendations closely when he submits his budget to the legislature March 2. The governor said he would also go along with a boost in the gasoline tax because "modern industry is keyed to a road system." In the legislature, both parties are reported as "cautious," but "inclined to go along" with the new taxes.

The bi-partisan committee which dreamed up all these new ways to squeeze the consumer, offered no suggestion for any new imposts on business or real estate. The labor members said they were going along with the tax program "reluctantly." They asserted that the "archaic" state constitution provided no way out and that it should be amended.

Here in Philadelphia the city is recommending to the Public Utility Commission that it grant a one-cent increase in the cost of bus and subway tokens, bringing it up to 19 cents. Cash fare will remain 20 cents. In addition a two-cent transfer charge will be granted on one bus line and suburban routes will be re-zoned for a further fare increase.

In return, the city wrenched a major concession from the transit company — the company agreed not to apply for a new increase until next year. Nine increases have been granted since 1946 when the fare was eight cents or two tokens for 15 cents.

ACUTE FOR JOBLESS

These added new living expenses come as a particularly cruel blow for the jobless whose situation throughout the state is acute. The current unemployment figure of ten per cent of the labor force stands in contrast to six per cent nationally. Further, five of the ten areas in the country classified by the government as having more than 12 per cent jobless are in this state. The five are Altoona, Erie, Johnstown, Scranton and Wilkes-Barre.

Of the 76 spots across the country listed by the Labor Department as having a "substantial labor surplus," ten are in Pennsylvania. Among these are Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Reading, York and the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton area.

What to do about the half million idle? Clobber them with new taxes and let them pay more carfare to look for work. At least that seems to be the answer of the city and state Democratic administration.

Dobbs, Browder Debate Marxism's Validity

By Fred Halsted

Earl Browder, General Secretary of the Communist Party until his expulsion in 1945 said Feb. 20 that "the Communist Party under my leadership was correctly described by the Trotskyites as a reformist party with revolutionary trimmings."

The statement was made before an audience of 250 persons during a debate with Farrell Dobbs, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party. The debate, arranged by the Militant Labor Forum of New York City and moderated by Muriel McAvoyn, was on the question: "Does Marxism retain full validity for the United States?" Dobbs said "yes" and Browder "no."

Browder said he was "proud to be called a revisionist of Marx." In the 1930's, he said, he hadn't had time to develop his revisionism theoretically; but "in those days we used the revolutionary trimmings to better advantage than anyone else had ever been able to do and under the press of practical work I made decisions of a revisionist kind. They were correct decisions and what I'm talking about today is a more rigorously thought out continuation of that basically correct course."

Browder said his presentation of the debate was based on ideas more fully developed in his book "Marxism and America." In his opinion Marxism never had full validity for America. Marx himself, Browder asserted, had recognized that America "was an exception" in the capitalist world and that the U.S. economy "apparently refuted Marx's central doctrine of the impoverishment of the working class as an inevitable accompaniment of the process of capitalist accumulation."

"Marx made a profound mistake," said Browder, "when he predicted that future developments would bring the economy of U.S. into closer harmony with the Marxist system. America did not move closer to what Marx predicted for it. It moved further away."

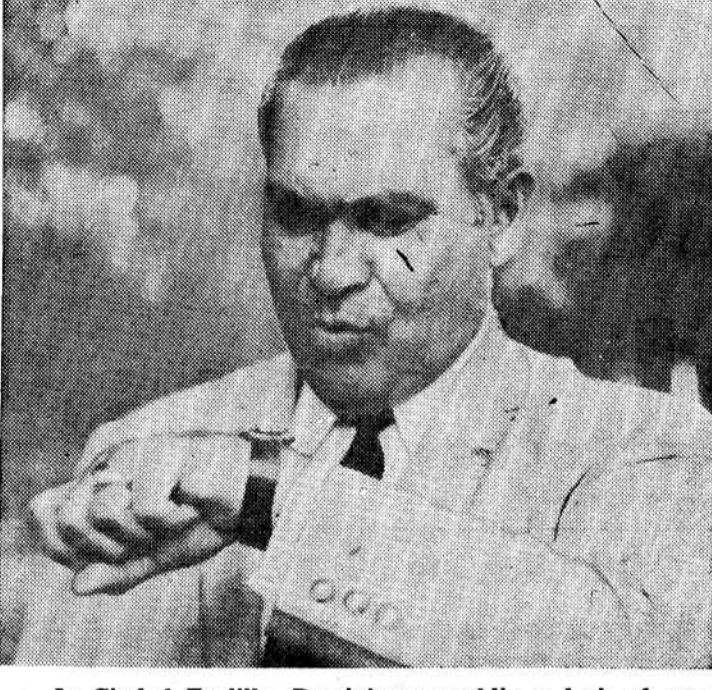
Browder claimed that when Marx spoke of impoverishment he did not mean anything relative. "He clearly meant dire poverty, privation to the point of the physical destruction of large parts of the working class through denial of their place in the economic system."

This has not happened in America, said Browder, "not merely because of the workers' struggles or legislative reforms," but because an open frontier and other factors in U.S. history developed a different type of worker and capitalist than elsewhere. "The American worker is not the worker of Marxist theory, not the worker 'stripped bare' in the confrontation between capital and labor."

"You," said Browder, referring to revolutionary socialists, "have separated socialism from social gains. American labor is actually realizing the substance of socialism under capitalist forms."

Dobbs contended that Browder's theories "leave out the class nature of the social problem and that's the key issue. Browder's writings indicate that the workers' struggles will be limited within capitalist forms. But the capitalist concessions to

His Time May Be Running Out



In Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican republic, a look of concern masks the face of exiled Cuban dictator Batista as he studies wristwatch. The ousted dictator has been seeking another hideout. His friend Trujillo now views the presence of Batista as an embarrassment.

against the best fighters in the rank and file . . . who make a mockery of union democracy, who do everything in their power to take away the strike powers of the ranks, to tear down the steward system, to hamstring the workers on the job and in the political field."

As for the march on Washington, said Dobbs, mass action is necessary, "but remember this well: Reuther doesn't mean it. If a march comes off, it will be because of a big, hot fire built under Reuther by people who understand that."

"It is that same 'impossibilist' attitude," retorted Browder, "that has reduced the socialist movement in America to insignificance. You'll never get anywhere opposing the great leaders of labor or calling them 'labor fakirs' in the manner of De Leon."

Dobbs closed the debate saying: "The development of the United States confirms Marxism par-excellence." In spite of tremendous military spending, chronic unemployment "is a feature of the U.S. economy now," said Dobbs.

He said that it is not true that a greater mass movement existed 75 years ago than now. Such a view leaves out the 18 million organized workers of today. "The tragedy is," said Dobbs, "that the movement stopped at economic organization in the 1930's, and the re-

Browder, "has here faithfully repeated the very dogmas and formulas which were put forward 75 years ago, probably in this very same hall and 75 years ago there was a greater mass movement than today."

"The obvious facts are," Browder said several times during the debate, "that the socialist movement has declined in influence and that the workers' standard of living has steadily improved."

LAUDS REUTHER

From the audience, Browder was asked why, if conditions were improving, United Auto Workers' President Walter Reuther found it necessary to call for a march on Washington to press for relief for the unemployed.

"I think Reuther is a great labor leader," replied Browder. "It will always be necessary to fight for reforms and it is the Reuthers who are doing that. I'm sorry that no such freedom exists in countries calling themselves socialist."

Dobbs then said: "There is a drive against living standards now . . . it was the Reuthers and such labor fakirs who carried through the witch-hunt

Wagner Proves a Point In Communist Manifesto

NEW YORK, Feb. 21 — Marx and Engels' observation on the function of capitalist government — that it serves as "a committee for managing the common affairs of the whole bourgeoisie" — is regarded by many today as disproved. But Mayor Wagner's Democratic administration seems hell-bent on showing how right Marx and Engels were in the Communist Manifesto.

Right now the administration is busy trying to slap new taxes on the working people, keep the public schools segregated, break a teachers' strike and help rent-gouging slum landlords. Despite this hectic schedule, it's also working on a deal to donate an estimated quarter of a billion dollars of public property and tax-payers' money to Consolidated Edison, the city's monopolistic public utilities corporation.

Yesterday the City Board of Estimate held a public hearing on Consolidated Edison's offer to buy the city's three power plants and then sell power back to the city at stiff commercial rates for operation of the subway system.

Actual details of the draft contract, drawn up almost a year ago, have been kept carefully guarded, but the Transport Workers Union, AFL-CIO, has not been contradicted in its claim that if the deal goes through, the city, over the next 20 years, will pay the utility monopoly almost \$420 million for power that could be produced by the City Transit Authority for \$277 million. That's a cool \$143 million grab.

The union also points out that the city has already spent about \$158 million to modernize the plants. It estimates that the plant sites, buildings and facilities are worth at least another \$40 million.

At yesterday's hearing, Mayor Wagner said the Board of Estimate would carefully consider all arguments pro and con. But the commission he appointed to study Con Edison's generous offer has already recommended acceptance.

When TWU President Michael Quill asked if City Comptroller Gerosa was connected with the Gerosa Construction firm now working for Consolidated Edison, the city official exploded: "We have been working for Consolidated Edison for many years. I am not connected with my companies at all. I am now Comptroller of the City of New York."

But don't get the idea that the administration and Con Edison confine their interest in city affairs simply to what's available in the treasury. The real issue is a crusade against "creeping socialism." Last year Forbes, the president of the company, told stockholders that acquisition of the power plants "would remove a temptation for the city to expand its power system to other fields."

... Smear Committee

(Continued from Page 1)

forts is demonstrated "by the fact that even before the attorneys for the boys had filed their appeal, the formerly obdurate Gov. Hodges was forced to order the boys' release. The rare, true, sections in the reprinted smear articles now circulated by Hodges are those crediting the CCRI's efforts for the national and international protest. Its magnitude may be gauged by the passages describing with dismay the file of protest letters 'which continue to grow without let up and which took five hours of this reporter's time just to leaf through.'"

Answering the charge that the CCRI is a "Communist Front," the statement points out that this is of the same pattern as the current move of Arkansas authorities to officially brand the NAACP as "Communist-controlled." In both cases, the committee charges, the effort is being made to shift the issue from racism to the charge of "communism."

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Los Angeles

Meet the author!

A dinner and meeting celebrating the publication of James P. Cannon's "Notebook of an Agitator."

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The first target of the Carolina racists has been Conrad Lynn, attorney for the CCRI. "Knowing the laws of libel," the CCRI declares, "the attorney general and the journalist doing the articles used by Gov. Hodges, make no direct accusation. Rather they 'list' some associations of Mr. Lynn with civil liberties organizations and appeals for amnesty or new trials in political cases."

"Though the charge is not made that the CCRI is a 'front' for the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party, the first 'listing' against Mr. Lynn is that he was attorney for the Puerto Rican Nationalists, some of whose members made an attempt on Truman's life and later fired shots from the gallery of Congress. That attorneys are not to be held responsible for the deeds or beliefs of those they defend and that in the case of the Nationalists . . . Mr. Lynn was the court-appointed attorney, is carefully left out of the North Carolina 'record,' as is the fact that he is counsel for other groups such as the pacifist Fellowship of Reconciliation."

Smear charges against CCRI member Carl Braden include the fact that he was indicted for "arson" and "sedition" in Kentucky after a home he resold to a Negro was bombed by racists. Omitted is the fact that Braden was finally exonerated of both charges. Also pointed to is Braden's recent citation for contempt of Congress after his defiance of House Un-American Activities Committee efforts to aid Southern racists by "investigating" pro-integration activities. This "investigation" was denounced by 210 Southern Negro leaders.

Robert F. Williams, chairman of the CCRI and President of the Union County NAACP, is depicted in the Governor's propaganda barrage as "overly

aggressive, very extreme in his statements and inclined to consider himself a martyr." Racial tension in Union County since 1956 is attributed to "his intemperance."

Dr. A. E. Perry, also a member of the CCRI and a leader in the Monroe equal rights battle, is cited as having been convicted of performing an abortion on a white woman. This frame-up conviction was reversed by the North Carolina Supreme Court. He was then convicted again on identical "evidence" — the unsubstantiated word of the woman who claimed he performed the abortion. The new conviction is under appeal.

PILLORY VICTIMS

The vilest smear attack, however, is reserved for the two victims in the case and their mothers. A long list of alleged larcenies is cited as the real reason for committing the boys to the reformatory, even though the state was unable to produce the record of a single such act when called upon to do so in court.

"Most contemptible," the CCRI statement declares, "and something that would not be dared if the mothers of the children were white rather than Negro — is Gov. Hodges' pillorying and trial by newspaper of the mothers as immoral and the children as illegitimate. The newspaper reprint that Gov. Hodges is sending out all over the world condemns one mother with an accusation beginning 'she has a reputation for.' One boy is branded illegitimate outright on the basis of the dates of his parents' separation. Of the other, after calendar-counting, it is declared he 'was born nine months to the day after his father's death.'"

But, after all, that's the way the mind of a "Southern white gentleman" works.

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Notebook of an Agitator



For those who remember and for those who want to know what it was like. Bartolomeo Vanzetti and Nicola Sacco — America's most famous victims of the witch-hunt in the twenties. Let Jim Cannon tell you about that fight. The love radicals everywhere felt for the two anarchist rebels, the fierce wish to save them from the chair, the agony as the world saw the courts and the capitalist authorities insist on burning the victims, the shock, the hatred, the anger that crystallized into socialist resolution to build a better world. This is the American vanguard of the twenties. Read it for yourself in "Notebook of an Agitator." \$4 clothbound, \$2.50 paper.

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Urge Shift in Taxes From Poor to Rich

NEW YORK — Opposing the drive for increased city and state taxes as "a fresh attack on the living standards of workers," the United Independent-Socialist Committee has urged a program of increased taxation of business interests and alleviation of the present tax burden on low-income groups.

The committee, which led the 1958 state election campaign of the Independent-Socialist Party, points out: "It requires considerable ingenuity to devise nearly 20 new taxes without stumbling across one that would hit corporations and businesses, but Rockefeller (Republican) and Wagner (Democrat) have managed it."

Figures compiled by the committee demonstrate that the state's soak-the-poor approach has been a consistent one. If the currently proposed tax hike goes through, personal income taxes will have increased since 1945 by 290% for a couple with a joint income of less than \$70 a week. In the same period, corporation taxes will have increased only a fraction over 22%.

The committee urges that instead of lowering the income tax exemption, as Rockefeller proposes, such exemptions be increased so that a family of four with an income of \$5,000 will not be required to pay any tax.

In addition to increased taxes on business interests and stiffer levies on high personal incomes, the committee has called for action to win increased federal aid for such social services as schools, hospitals, roads and transportation, pointing out that this could be done through a reduction of military expenditures and a graduated tax on the undistributed profits of large corporations.

"We call on the legislature of our state," the committee declared, "to memorialize Congress to re-examine our foreign policy and the need for huge military expenditures which are taking 60 per cent of our national budget, and to divert these funds from the job of helping to kill people to the more constructive job of helping them to live comfortably."

Marcy Splits from SWP

A split occurred in the Socialist Workers Party Feb. 12 when Sam Marcy, a member of the National Committee, walked out with some 30 followers, mostly in Buffalo where he lives. The group had existed about 12 years in the SWP, first forming when Marcy, in opposition to party policy, advocated support of the candidacy of Henry Wallace on a liberal capitalist program.

Marcy's main tenet is that a "global" division has placed Washington in leadership of the capitalist class, Moscow of the proletariat. Consequently members of the Communist Party cannot be independent if they break from Stalinism but fall into the capitalist camp unless they at once accept what Marcy considers to be a correct global class-struggle program. Tito, for example, came under Marcy's condemnation for maintaining independence from Stalin.

In 1956 Marcy advocated support of Khrushchev's suppression of the workers' uprising in Hungary. He accused the Hungarian workers of supporting a "counter-revolution" since they were striving for independence

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