

THE YOUNG SOCIALIST

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Student Action Mounts Against U. S. Nuclear Tests

by Ellen Strong

Lewis L. Strauss, former head of the Atomic Energy Commission, made a statement to the press last month in which he said: "I have heard that there is widespread opposition to nuclear weapons testing, and wish that these people would come out from hiding." Perhaps if Admiral Strauss had read the papers, or listened to the radio, he would have been better informed.

Nationwide activity for the cessation of nuclear weapons tests either unilaterally or through United Nations agreement has been gaining momentum in the past weeks. Students have been active in all the protests, and have organized protests of their own on campuses from Cambridge, Mass., to Seattle, Wash.

The New York High School Council for a Sane Nuclear Policy was formed a week after the Walk for Peace to the UN headquarters in April. Now it includes students from 28 New York high schools and seven New Jersey schools. They are working in conjunction with the Student Com-

mittee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, which is composed of college students.

One of the most important things about both these groups, as well as the others throughout the country, is that their programs represent a minimal agreement of those participating in the activities. The individuals involved have diverse opinions on methods, eventual desired results, even reasons for asking for a cessation. They are united, however, on the basic issue, opposition to the continuation of nuclear testing by any country.

The cooperating organizations represent various political beliefs as well as ideological differences. The groups constituting the backbone of the Sane organizations are the American Friends Service Committee, the Catholic Worker, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the Peacemakers, the War Resisters League, and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Because of the success of the UN walk, another Walk for Peace was held over the Memorial Day weekend. This time groups of walkers from Wilmington, Del. and Winchester, Va. walked to Washington, D.C. where they were met by busloads of New Yorkers who came to join the demonstrations. The group held an open meeting in College Park, Md., to which groups of interested university students were attracted, and walked into Washington Saturday morning.

Sunday, the entire group walked to the White House and formed a huge picket line for an hour and half. Of course, the

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YS Calls for National Conference

NEW YORK—A call to young socialists throughout the U. S. and Canada to come to a conference in Chicago on Labor Day to discuss the prospects for a new socialist youth movement has been issued by the editors of the YOUNG SOCIALIST.

The editors, representing various socialist viewpoints, began their publication last fall with the slogan, "Let us build a movement for all Socialist youth." Since then nine issues of the paper have been read by thousands of young workers and students. The YS has introduced a discussion of socialist ideas on dozens of campuses throughout the country.

Of great importance has been the support YS has given to the development of local youth clubs which brought together for common action and discussion young socialists of different persuasions. The editors endorsed the Midwest Conference of Young Socialists held in Chicago last February as active proponents of an independent, broad and militant socialist youth organization.

The YS March editorial stated: "We are confident that a youth movement like this must, can and will soon be created in America."

The present call affirms: "It is our feeling that the time has now come to take concrete steps in the direction of forming such an organization." (See Call on page 2.)

headlined its story: "Flying Eggs Bring Cops to Rally of Socialists Near Bronx HS." The harassing activity encountered almost unanimous opposition from the student body.

COPS SEIZE SPEAKERS

A week later, the YSA announced its "Second Free Speech Rally" at the school, calling on students to "Help defend Constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech and assembly," and to "Hear youth speakers present the socialist alternatives on the issues confronting all students today." The school principal promptly issued a complaint to the police (an act which he later denied). When the speakers appeared, they were met by police who threatened to arrest them if they went ahead with the meeting.

The first speaker, Richard DeHaan, chairman of the YSA and YOUNG SOCIALIST editorial board member, mounted the soap-box and convened the meeting. His speech began: "We are here today to test and enforce the Constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech and assembly." At that point, he was pulled off the box by two cops, and, together with Russell Jones, YSA speaker,

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YS editorial board member James Lambrecht is seen here addressing a crowd of 300 Bronx Science students at the third outdoor meeting of the Young Socialist Alliance.

COPS, ROTTEN EGGS AND FINAL VICTORY

NYC Socialists Conduct Battle for Free Speech

by a Bronx Science Student

NEW YORK — What happens when young people put to a test their right of free speech and assembly on the streets of New York? Members of a socialist group, the Young Socialist Alliance, found out. The YSA has conducted a series of street-corner meetings at various campuses in the city, reviving an old socialist tradition which had been dead for several years here. In three meetings held outside the Bronx High School of Science, YSA members met with egg-throwing, heckling, threats of violence, police harassment and the arrest of two speakers. At the same time they gained widespread support among non-socialist students for their right to be heard, forced the hecklers and the cops to retreat, and won a victory for civil liberties.

The free speech campaign began with the announcement by the YSA that it would hold one of its regular campus street meetings outside Bronx Science. Students of the school who helped distribute leaflets for the meeting were threatened with expulsion under a rarely-enforced regulation.

Emboldened by administrative pressures against the meeting, several students harassed the speakers, addressing an audience of 300, with egg-throwing and heckling. The police, apparently uncertain as to how to proceed, made no serious attempts to interfere either with the meeting or with the hecklers. The N. Y. Post



Police drag YSA speaker Russ Jones off to the precinct station for committing the "crime" of free speech.

Mrs. Sobell Brings Husband's Case to Students

by Martha Curti

"A case which has been compared to that of Sacco and Vanzetti must not be allowed to remain restless on the conscience of the nation." That is what the Michigan Daily wrote in an editorial after Helen Sobell spoke at the Ann Arbor campus on behalf of her husband's freedom. Mrs. Sobell spoke also at Wayne State University in Detroit, Eastern Michigan College in Ypsilanti, the University of Chicago, and the University of California.

Mrs. Sobell's recent trip aroused a great deal of interest in the case of Morton Sobell among many students who had not previously heard of the case. "The response of students to my husband's case was very encouraging," Mrs. Sobell told the YOUNG SOCIALIST. "The very fact that I was able to speak to so many students, when this would have been impossible a few years ago, is promising."

In June, 1950, at the time of the Korean War and the apex of the McCarthy hysteria, Morton Sobell, a 33-year-old scientist, was convicted of "conspiracy to commit espionage." He was sentenced to 30 years—the most productive part of his life—and sent to Alcatraz, the worst of the Federal prisons. Sobell's trial was the same one in which the Rosenbergs were convicted. Public opinion at the time was virtually

unanimous in its frenzied condemnation of Sobell, for mere accusation was tantamount to guilt.

SOBELL MAINTAINS INNOCENCE

Sobell and his family have steadfastly maintained his innocence. They and a few courageous supporters have worked for eight years to publicize the facts of the case and fight for Sobell's freedom. Recently increasing numbers of people have re-examined the case, or studied it for the first time, and have become convinced of Sobell's innocence, or at least of the fact that he should have a new trial. Many well-known Americans, including the late Elmer Davis, Dr. Harold Urey, Lewis Mumford, Linus Pauling, and Sen. William Langer, have appealed for a new trial for Sobell.

The story of the trial and the events surrounding it are too complex to recount here. The press actually called Morton Sobell an "atom spy" daily for nine months before the trial even began. How can a few paragraphs in the YOUNG SOCIALIST counteract such a ponderous influence? Suffice it to say that there was no proof in the trial that Sobell handed any atomic secrets to anyone. Further, the prosecution presented perjured testimony and suppressed evidence in order to conceal the fact that Sobell had been illegally kidnapped from Mexico by the U. S. Government. The only testimony on which the conviction was based was that of a confessed perjurer who now holds a well-paying engineering job. For the full story of the trial the complete trial transcript, now

in its third printing, is available for \$6.00 from the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, 940 Broadway, New York 10, N.Y. An excellent book on the case is "Was Justice Done?" by Professor Malcolm Sharp of the Univ. of Chicago.

ACT ON CONVICTIONS

Asked whether she had any message to convey to readers of the YOUNG SOCIALIST, Mrs. Sobell said: "I hope that students and young people everywhere will take an interest in my husband's case, and where they are convinced of its merit, take some action in support of it. It is important for young people to keep informed on all issues in the world around them and to speak out wherever an issue requires their action."

An important step toward victory for Morton Sobell was his transfer from Alcatraz last February to a prison in Atlanta where conditions are slightly less inhuman. But a prison is still a prison, and the basic injustice remains. In spite of the discovery

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YS CALLS A CONFERENCE

For a New Youth Movement

A new and promising situation has developed on the campuses and among the young workers of North America. In the throes of an intense economic and ideological crisis, youth are once again turning to radical solutions. A revitalized socialist youth movement is necessary to give expression to this discontent.

For close to a year young socialists throughout the United States and Canada have been striving to reassemble socialist youth in a unified functioning movement. The Labor Youth League in the U. S. and the National Federation of Labor Youth in Canada, which together contained the bulk of North America's organized socialist youth in their ranks, have been dissolved for two years. The Young Socialist League, the only other nationwide socialist youth group, minute though it be, has shirked united action with other socialists, expelled its left wing and moved away from the majority of young socialists in its quest for unity with the right-wing Socialist Party-Social Democratic Federation.

To fill the vacuum caused by the demise of the LYL and NFLY and the retreat of the YSL, young socialist clubs have sprung up in all major centers in both countries and today contain within them the majority of organized socialist youth. These clubs have based themselves on the principle of independence from all existing political parties, broadness in political composition and militancy in action.

The YOUNG SOCIALIST, itself the result of the unity of some young members of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (Canada), the Socialist Workers Party, the Left Wing of the Young Socialist League, former LYLeers, and independent socialists, has been fostering the unity of all young socialists into a nationwide body ever since its inception. It is our feeling that the time has now come to take concrete steps in the direction of forming such an organization. The basic organization of socialist youth on a local level has been completed in large part. A paper sold and read throughout the United States and Canada has been functioning for nine months carrying within its columns discussions on many points in dispute among young socialists. Finally, the American student is once again beginning to turn to the left—to look for a way out of the sorry situation capitalism has gotten us into domestically and internationally. An organization is essential if we are to reach these young people with the liberating ideas of socialism.

It is for these reasons that the YOUNG SOCIALIST, the only socialist youth paper in North America, is issuing a call to young socialists throughout the U. S. and Canada to come to a conference in Chicago on Labor Day to discuss the setting up of a new socialist youth movement. The great interest and substantial response to the YOUNG SOCIALIST, in its general appeal for a new movement, makes it mandatory upon the paper to take this next step forward.

What kind of movement do we need? We need a movement that is independent of existing parties—a movement in which young people can develop their ideas on their own. We can learn a great deal from the adult parties who have kept the ideas of socialism alive in this country during the darkest period in our history—the reign of McCarthyism. But we must assess these ideas for ourselves in our

own movement.

We need a movement that is truly broad in its composition—that excludes no one who accepts the basic principles of socialism as applied to today's world. In order to make this possible our movement must be truly democratic and guarantee to any minority full rights to further its views within the organization. It must of course grant the majority the right to speak and act in the name of the organization, for if it did not do so it would be denying the majority its democratic rights.

Our movement must be a fighting movement—militant in the fine tradition of American radicalism that has produced such great forerunners of ours as Eugene V. Debs, Big Bill Haywood, F. A. Sorge, John Reed and Daniel DeLeon. Action cannot be abstracted from political ideas any more than political ideas can be developed without relation to action. For a youth movement to be militant in action it must base itself on a militant socialist program.

Without spelling out such a program at the present time we suggest that a militant program should contain the following qualities:

Our program must identify us with the only class that can bring socialism into existence, the working class. A militant program must recognize the existence of struggles between classes as the essence of social relations in the modern capitalist society and side unequivocally with the working class. This means concretely full support to the trade union movement in its struggles with the capitalist class, while criticizing the union bureaucrats when they sacrifice the needs of the workers to maintain "labor peace" and their own privileged positions. This means no support to the capitalist parties since such support would mean crossing the political picket line. This means supporting socialists who run against these parties.

Internationalism must be the core of our program. The only socialism that ever was worth anything is international socialism which recognizes that the working class is as much an international class as is the capitalist class with its cartels and military alliances. We socialists must support our brothers in other lands—fight with them against the rulers of the world who poison the atmosphere with their nuclear tests, who hold down colonial peoples, who are planning a third world war against the Soviet bloc. We must support the conquests of workers in other lands, such as the nationalized property existing in one-third of the world.

Our program must be democratic in its essence. Socialism loses its meaning if it oppresses the many—if it does not allow for the fullest democratic rights to the working and exploited peoples of the world. Thus socialism means not suppression of democratic rights as exists in the Soviet Union, but rather the full flowering of these rights. Therefore we support fully the struggle of the working class in the Soviet lands to wrench the political power usurped by the bureaucrats and place it in the hands of the workers themselves democratically organized in workers councils or soviets.

These are some of our ideas on the question of a program for a united socialist youth movement. We invite all our readers to send in their ideas and to participate with us in a pre-conference discussion. We hope to see you in Chicago on Labor Day.

—The Editors

Communications

(The following letter is in response to an article which appeared in the April edition of Political Affairs, of which Herbert Aptheker is editor.)

Dear Comrade Aptheker:

We have noted with interest the "Call to Youth" published in Political Affairs, April 1958 and signed by "twelve student and working class youth who are affiliated with no organization." We agree that "... in the past two years, there has been a definite increase in spontaneous youth activity throughout the country," and welcome the call for formation of a "coordinated, representative, broad American youth movement."

The Young Socialist Alliance of New York City is such a group, maintaining fraternal relations with some fifteen similar clubs throughout the U. S. and Canada. The YSA supports the monthly newspaper, the YOUNG SOCIALIST, which has just published in large numbers a special four-page supplement on "Socialism and

the American Student." This supplement is being distributed on campuses throughout the country by supporters of the newspaper interested in carrying the message of socialism to the American student. All these groups and activities are united in the conviction that any successful socialist youth movement must be based on the following minimal premises: independence from any adult group or political party, broadness of composition with no exclusion of any socialist tendency as its criterion, and militancy in the prosecution of socialist programs and identification with the socialist tradition.

We note that point 4 of the Call specifies recognition of "The Vanguard Role of the Communist Party." Such identification would seem to restrict the proposed movement at the outset to the sectarian isolation against which it is nominally directed, and to contravene the "broad" nature of the movement which the writers envisage. As indicated above, we feel that the success of the YSA and its fraternal groups has

stemmed from its strict avoidance of such ties to adult groupings.

Despite this and other differences with the Call, however, we would be happy to discuss with the twelve signers the formation of a youth movement in which all socialist tendencies can participate on the basis of their minimal agreement.

With fraternal greetings,
Richard DeHaan, Chairman
Young Socialist Alliance

(The following letter was sent to the United Independent-Socialist Electoral Conference, which met in New York City June 13-15.)

Dear Comrades:

The YOUNG SOCIALIST extends its warmest greetings to the Conference for Independent-Socialist electoral activity. As the only nationwide socialist youth newspaper, we take particular interest in any possibility of presenting to youth exercising their franchise for the first time an alternative to support of the capitalist parties. We pledge our fullest support to your efforts.

Fraternally,
Tim Wohlforth,
Managing Editor

Young Socialist

Tim Wohlforth, Managing Editor
Virginia Halstead, Business Manager

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France: Democracy Falls

In the last two weeks of May France has moved from parliamentary democracy to personal dictatorship. What made possible such a swift and largely peaceful destruction of democracy in one of the bastions of the "free world?" What road lies ahead for the mass of the French people—the working people?

The rapid shift in the French Government has been prepared for by the continuous crisis of French capitalism. For years France has struggled in vain to keep control over her vast colonial empire, and with the economic sustenance this empire gives her, keep herself afloat as a major capitalist power. She fought a losing battle against the Indochinese people in her attempt to hold on to that country. The net result was her defeat at Dienbienphu which left half of Indochina to the Vietminh forces and the other half to a weakened capitalist government which soon came under American, not French, domination. Since then she has been conducting a bloody war against the entire Algerian people in an attempt to hold on to this highly profitable colony.

ROAD TO DICTATORSHIP

In her war against the Algerian people she has wiped out whole villages, practiced genocide on a scale to make Hitler envious, and developed an elitist paratroop corps skilled in all the torture techniques of the Gestapo. These men, known as the "paras," got their basic training fighting the Indochinese people and then moved into Algeria for the final training. In addition the last few French governments have pared down democratic freedoms in France itself in such a way as to pave the way for dictatorship. The radical press



Canard Enchaîné, Paris

"French democracy is taking special measures."

has been subject to constant seizure and censorship. The Algerian organizations in France have been outlawed for several years. Mass meetings and parades by the working class have been forbidden. The national security police have been given experience at strike breaking, illegal seizures of citizens, hunting down of nationalist sympathizers, etc.

All these are signs of the decay of a democratic regime which is carrying out an antidemocratic war against a whole people, the Algerians. France, gripped by a chronic economic instability, could not afford the luxury of "democratic" capitalism. French capitalism could be maintained on a profitable basis only by exploiting the colonies to the utmost for their rich natural resources, cheap labor supply, as a source for investment and as a market for French goods. The right-wing forces—large-scale industrialists and financiers—saw a Gaullist dictatorship as the only way to prevent a compromise in Algeria, thus saving the colonies for France.

THE GAULLIST PLOT

All the pro-Gaullist forces needed to bring them to power was a base of operations, finances, and a worked-out plan. Algeria was the obvious base of operation as the "paras" were given virtual martial law power in the country, and to supplement this the extreme colonialists (known as "ultras") were handed partial power in the form of armed citizen detachments. Financial support came from the settlers in Algeria—the large landowners and other big capitalists with economic interests at stake; willing manpower came from the ranks of the elitist "paras" and the numerous fascist and semi-fascist organizations. The Gaullists, led by Leon Delbecq, then carried out a carefully prepared plot with the knowledge of the Minister of War, leading members of parliament, top ranking officers, de Gaulle himself, and Lacoste, the "socialist" minister of Algeria. (New York Times, June 4, 1958).

Following the actual seizure of power by pro-Gaullist forces in Algeria on May 13 and the subsequent seizures in Corsica and other areas, Pflimlin proceeded to prepare the way for de Gaulle's coming to power. He was able to do so only because the Communist and Socialist parties allowed his government to stand. The Pflimlin government, instead of taking steps against the rebels, proceeded to give them an aura of legality by placing General Salan, one of the rebel leaders, in supreme command of the situation. Then the government demanded emergency powers which would in effect turn the government into a dictatorial one and thus save de Gaulle the bother. These were guaranteed to Pflimlin, again only because of the votes of Socialists and Communists. After getting these powers, which allowed the government to impose virtual martial law and to suppress working-class organizations, Pflimlin meekly resigned, his task completed, and handed power to de Gaulle.

DEFENSE OF THE REPUBLIC

What did the working class and its parties do in this situation?

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Wayne U. Case History: Fight Against Witchhunt

(This article was submitted to the YOUNG SOCIALIST by a student at Wayne University. It documents the encroachment of the witchhunt at Wayne and the growing student resistance to it. In many respects the story is typical of trends on other American campuses.)

"Academic freedom at Wayne State University in Detroit was sacrificed at the altar of social, political, and financial expediency. Its sacrifice was plotted by a few, but many acquiesced."

So spoke out Mort Furay, of the Wayne Daily Collegian staff, in a series of four articles which recently appeared in the campus paper. The articles dealt with such issues as: the background of the present denial of freedom on university radio and TV; the history of the fight for academic over the last few years; a critical look at present rules and regulations now in force on campus; and recommendations for reclaiming academic freedom at Wayne.

In his first article, Furay neatly summarized the necessity for his articles by stating: "We at Wayne State are seeking truth. In pursuit of truth we want to have the right to listen to any idea and to decide ourselves whether we accept or reject it. If we are prevented from hearing all ideas, how can we know what we find is the truth?"

TROUBLE FOR SOBELL

He then went into the present denial of freedom on university radio and TV. As the first case in point, he cited the difficulties encountered by Mrs. Helen Sobell in her attempt to appear on campus and speak over WDET, the uni-

versity radio. Mrs. Sobell wished to speak in behalf of a movement to secure amnesty for her husband, Morton Sobell, who is under a 30-year sentence for conspiracy to commit espionage. (See page 1 for story of Mrs. Sobell's campus tour.) Getting a place on campus where she could talk became an almost insurmountable obstacle. Finally, after being given the runaround by the administration, Rev. Anthony Perrino of the Wesley Foundation on campus allowed Mrs. Sobell the use of his building in spite of advice from the administration.

The second case quoted by Furay as a denial of freedom on university radio and TV was that of Carl Winter, the Michigan head of the Communist Party. Mr. Winter was scheduled to appear over WTVS, the university TV station, on a panel show titled "Viewpoints." Regarding Mr. Winter, it was decided that his views did not have the right to be heard. It seems that Wayne State has a policy which prevents any known Communist from appearing on campus.

ACADEMIC FREEDOM DIES

The history of the fight for, and the subsequent loss of, academic freedom over the last few years was the subject of Furay's second article. According to Furay, Wayne started losing its freedom on February 11, 1947. That



The United States Festival Committee has issued a statement to leading youth organizations urging support for a representative American delegation to the Seventh World Festival of Youth and Students to be held in Vienna July 26-August 4, 1959. Above is the American contingent at the last Youth Festival held in Moscow.

is the day that Senator Matthew Callahan introduced a resolution setting up a three-man committee to investigate "the reds at Wayne University." On April 14 of the same year, Dr. David Henry, then President of Wayne, banned the AYD, acting on a Justice Department note. On May 19, the students, by a three to one vote, called for no political bans. Nothing was gained; the ban stood.

On March 29, 1950, Dr. Henry barred all "reds" from campus. On May 3, 1954, Professors Stein and Harrison, who had been subpoenaed by the Clardy Committee, were suspended. On March 15, 1956, all political clubs, the Wayne Young Socialist Club among them, were ousted.

This is only a partial story of how academic freedom died on Wayne's campus. Each individual retreat, each rationalization was a blow to academic freedom.

The third article concerned itself with a critical look at present rules and regulations now in force on campus and their effect on the students and professors at Wayne. One particular instance that Furay gives is in regard to the rules concerning the Young Socialists. In his words, "We have thought up smart-alec regulations to apply to the Young Socialists so that they will lose their status. Grant permission to them to sell their magazine and as soon as sales look brisk, cancel their permission. Oh, there's always a suitable reason to give with our wry smiles."

In considering the effects of

such rules and regulations, Furey asked the question, "How many instructors won't take a position on really important issues because they might offend the 'gods' of Wayne and miss getting their doctorate professorships, or their dean title or a department head title?" One cannot estimate the damage inflicted on the student by such examples of teacher cowardice.

TO REGAIN FREEDOM

In his fourth and concluding article, Furay made some recommendations for reclaiming academic freedom at Wayne. His suggested changes included: removing the final say on student-sponsored affairs from the jurisdiction of the administration and giving it to a student-faculty committee; changing rules to allow minority parties and social action groups on campus without stringent restrictions; abolishing the regulation governing the distribution of flyers; loosening restrictive regulations governing activities of campus clubs and outside speakers.

In concluding his series of articles, Furay appealed to the students to "make Wayne the most democratic campus in America. Make its academic freedom its most precious asset. Let's all check our fears and apprehensions in the nearest wastebasket. We've got a chance to redeem ourselves, regain our own self-respect and let freedom reign here at Wayne."

STUDENTS ACT

It lies in the hands of the stu-

dents of Wayne to claim what is rightly theirs — their precious right to academic freedom.

The first step toward attaining this right was indicated by a petition signed by 147 Wayne students. This petition printed in the Daily Collegian stated: "The recent material in the Daily Collegian marks a significant turning point in the almost continual retreat from those principles traditionally considered essential to the functions of a university in a free society. By taking the lead in the fight to re-establish academic freedom the Daily Collegian, we believe, is assuming the proper role of a student newspaper."

Sobell . . .

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of important new evidence, the Supreme Court has denied the request for a new trial for Sobell. The only remaining recourse is the pressure of public opinion. The Sobell Committee is circulating a petition addressed to President Eisenhower asking for a pardon for Sobell or a new trial. Thousands of Americans have already signed this petition. Every added name is another blow to the witchhunt, whose toll has been far too heavy already. As long as Morton Sobell is in prison, as long as any single person suffers for his convictions, we have a job to do.

France: Democracy Falls . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

The liberal capitalists, including such men as Mendes-France, Daladier, and Francois Mitterand, joined with socialists in a Committee for the Defense of the Republic. The organization excluded the Communists and thus excluded the bulk of the French working class. It was a popular front without the populace—a head without a body. Instead of aggressively acting in a united front of all working-class forces including the CP against the threat of dictatorship and eventually fascism, the SFIO (socialist party) functioned in this respectable organization which had no program for France, no solution to the Algerian war that had done so much to bring on the crisis. The Committee's main function was to provide a cover for those who participated in it, who could state later—when it was too late—that they had done something.

One major demonstration was held in its name, the great working-class demonstration of 250,000 strong in Paris on May 28. The success of this demonstration was due, not to the "liberals" in its leadership, but to the mass of workers, most of them Communists or Socialists, who made up the bulk of the forces. While the liberals sang the "Marseillaise" and yelled "Vive la Republique" the workers sang the "Internationale" and called for a popular front, a turn to the left, as the road out.

The Communist Party itself, while not having as shamefaced a record as the Socialist Party, fell far below the needs of the day. It resorted to futile parliamentary maneuvers to stop de Gaulle, compromising itself by supporting the rotten Pflimlin government which was dedicated to continuing the genocide of the Algerian people. It neglected the organization of the working class in united action against the fascist threat. Thus the general strike call issued by the CGT (major French trade union federation, led by the CP), while partially effective, failed to mobilize the working class, as the CP did not offer a real program to get France out of the situation it had degenerated into. The CP was further compromised by its miserable stand on the Algerian question in the past—its abstentions on war credits to Algeria and its tacit support to the Mollet government while it carried on the Algerian war.

WHAT WAY OUT?

What road should the working class take out of its present dilemma? It is obvious to the French worker that de Gaulle is just a first step. Like Hindenburg in Germany, the military dictatorship is a way to prepare a country for the rise of fascism, and with it the destruction of the workers' organizations.

First the workers must forge a solid united front of all working-class groups to struggle against de Gaulle and those around him. Secondly, such a united front should take such steps as are necessary to secure the defense of the working class against fascist or army attacks. Workers' defense guards must be organized should the fascists and "paras" attempt to suppress the working-class movement. Thirdly, a united front should plan a nationwide general strike aimed at bringing down the de Gaulle government. Finally it should call for a workers' government, a government of all working-class parties and trade unions, including the Communist and Socialist parties, which can solve the Algerian question by granting full freedom to the Algerian people and can then proceed to take socialist measures aimed at destroying the base of the rise of dictatorship and fascism in France—at the decaying capitalist order.

I COVER REGROUPMENT

Cop Gets Lesson in Radical Tendencies

by William Martin

It was at the Sane Nuclear Policy meeting at Cooper Union. The Peace-Walkers were due from Washington Square. The rookie cop tossed his nightstick nervously.

A couple of people were selling the YOUNG SOCIALIST about 20 feet from the corner. The cop asked them if they would either peddle their papers across the street or stay at the corner. He was seeking to avoid a riot. The people selling the papers politely refused, citing recent court decision to back up their refusal.

The cop asked the people selling the papers if they had a permit to do so. They replied that none was necessary. He allowed at this could be true, and arranged a truce whereby the paper-sellers would stick to the corners and leave the police free to watch out for the riots that would momentarily ensue.

But, alas, this is a complex world. It was only natural that four other tendencies arrived shortly, and began hawking their

newspapers and magazines. The rookie looked hurt. The truce had been broken.

He approached a fellow selling Anvil, accusing him of breaking his promise to stay on the corner. The Anvil man looked perplexed. It was then that I interceded.

"Excuse me, officer, but this is another tendency from the one to whom you spoke before."

"Another tendency," said the officer. "Another tendency?"

"Yes," I said. Now I know how a mother feels when her child queries, "Where did I come from?" With this warmth burning inside me, I told the officer that at the moment there were five tendencies present.

"But don't they all want the same thing?" mumbled the guardian of law and order.

"The goal is the same; the means somewhat different," I answered.

"Well, how can you tell them apart?" asked the people's protector.

"Oh, that takes years," I replied proudly.

"Could you maybe give me a

five-minute capsule version?" said he.

I laughed condescendingly. "By the way," said the officer, "who are you?"

I am ashamed to admit that I was tempted to give him a silver bullet or reply, "Some folks know me as the Blue Beetle," but I fought off these impulses and said:

"Oh, just a casual observer of the American scene"—and faded into the night.

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YOUNG SOCIALIST
144 Second Ave.
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Youth Notes

DENVER, Col.—A student-organized Committee for Freedom of Religious Dissent was banned recently by Colorado University's Faculty Senate. Reasons were "CFRD would inspire negative thinking . . . it would be criticized by every religious group, government agency or individual whose policies it contradicted." And finally, ". . . if it were accused of being a Communist organization, the University would be held responsible." CFRD President Dale Shotwell offered to form a new group, the Glad-Handers, whose purpose it would be to value the good, true and beautiful in a spirit of hearty good fellowship. 19 campus organizations protested the ban. . . . Folk singer Pete Seeger let go before a wildly enthusiastic crowd of 600 last month, in an attempt by the Denver Labor Alliance to bring his "Hootenanny" out West. . . . The Young Socialists of Denver sponsored Dr. Scott Nearing for a report on his seventh visit to Russia.

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Student reaction to the Young Socialist Alliance free speech fight outside Bronx Science High School, a victorious 2-week battle against impact bombs, firecrackers and three squad cars of New York's Finest, culminated finally in the following addition to the new genre of "sick" jokes: "Mommy, mommy—what's a socialist?" "Shut up, brat and throw your eggs." . . . Loyalty oaths, a graduation requirement at Bronx Science, were protested in a petition signed by 400 students last week. . . . YOUNG SOCIALIST Managing Editor Tim Wohlforth won his pre-induction case against the Army recently, after a two and a half year fight to reverse the Army's charge of disloyalty because of Wohlforth's association with organizations on the Attorney General's Subversive List. Democratic aspect of the final hearing: the Army's "prosecutor" and "impartial legal adviser" were one and the same man.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Anger at the State Dept. brought leaders of the Young Socialist Club, Students for Democratic Action and the American Friends Service Committee together on the U. of Penn campus last month to sponsor a Conference on the Right to Travel, where before a packed auditorium speakers protested revocation of passport rights for the 41 American youth who travelled to China last year. At a later meeting Ben Daniels, victim of the State Dept.'s action, spoke to a crowd of 75 students. Copies of the proceedings of the Conference on the Right to Travel sell for 15c at the YOUNG SOCIALIST office.

DETROIT, Mich.—Victory of YS supporters in their fight for distribution rights at the U. of Michigan stimulated a great spurt of socialist activity among young workers and students in that area. In Detroit the Independent Socialist Youth, a city-wide organization of young socialists from varying political backgrounds, has just been formed. A Young Socialist Club set up shop last month at Eastern Michigan College in Ypsilanti, and students at the U. of Michigan (Ann Arbor) and Wayne University (Detroit) are planning to launch similar clubs next fall. . . . "Students operating on our expense figures aren't going to be able to live high off the hog," the Bureau of Student Loans at the U. of Minnesota commented recently on its 1958 student budget estimate. The minimum estimate for three quarters of school in 1957 was \$1,500. "This year," according to George Risty, Bureau representative, "the estimate has been hiked by \$65." With unemployment and rising prices, it's hard to predict how much additional expense the working student can take, Risty said. "I think what's going to get him will be the difficulty of obtaining a job." . . .

LONDON—An article about British espionage, printed in the Oxford undergraduate magazine Isis, brought its two authors under government charges of violating the Official Secrets Act. The article accuses British agents of deliberately provoking Russian military units in order to intercept and record their "Alert" radio messages. Prosecutor for the Crown in opening the case had this to say: "This prosecution is brought because some of the matter contained in that article is true and, as the defendant knew, was of a highly secret nature."

SAN FRANCISCO—Holland Roberts, running as an independent candidate with socialist backing, received a whopping 400,000 votes for California State Superintendent, recently, coming in third out of four candidates. Roberts, who campaigned against the witchhunt, for better education, and for socialism, was supported by the Mark Twain Club and by Young Socialist supporters throughout the state. . . . The Vancouver Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, at its recent convention passed a militant resolution declaring its opposition to capitalism. It stated: "The CCF will not rest content until capitalism has been eradicated and a full program of socialistic planning has been installed." . . . As we go to press the first debate in a long time between the right and left is being planned in New York by the YOUNG SOCIALIST. Tim Wohlforth, YS editor, will debate William Rusher, publisher of the National Review, on "What Road Out for France—DeGaulism or Socialism?"

Young Socialists Win Right to Speak on New York Streets . . .

(Continued from Page 1)
was put into a squad car and taken to the station house. As DeHaan was being removed he called out, "We'll be back!"
Two days later, the YSA announced its plans to protest the arrests and to test police powers by holding a third meeting. A leaflet was distributed at the school, reading, in part:
"FREE SPEECH AND FREE ASSEMBLY. This is a call to all who defend these common rights to attend a United Rally . . . TWO WERE ARRESTED last Tuesday and now await the decision of the courts. Their crime: a desire to present political ideas to their

fellow youth on the streets of New York City . . . Unite to Defend these Rights! The school administration and the police have, in this case, abandoned all legality. Now we, speakers and audience alike, must unite peacefully to preserve it. Act now for your right to speak and hear whatever ideas you choose!"

STUDENTS IN TURMOIL
Meanwhile, the student body was in turmoil over the issue. The principal addressed a regular assembly of the students on Wednesday in an attempt to minimize the civil liberties issues and his own attempts at intimidation. On Thursday, after the last leaflet

YSL WAITS AT GATE

SP-SDF Backs Capitalist Parties

by Barbara Doritty

DETROIT—The Socialist Party-Social Democratic Federation held its national convention here the weekend of May 30. The Young People's Socialist League, the barely existent youth adjunct of the party, was represented at the convention by two delegates out of the 70 or so present.

The electoral policy set forth by the Resolutions Committee was presented by Norman Thomas, who said: ". . . in the old days it was a good idea to run SP candidates but today it is almost impossible to get on the ballot. We must accept and adapt ourselves to the people's desire, that of participation in capitalist politics, especially those of the Democratic Party. What we need is a flexible program."

The Thomas position passed, thus placing the SP-SDF in the same camp with the Communist Party—the camp of socialists who support capitalists at the ballot box instead of running militant campaigns against the two capitalist parties. In sharp contrast to this is the move in New York City and elsewhere to form a united socialist ticket—a move supported by the National Guardian, many rank and file SP and CP members, the Socialist Workers Party and many independents. Aware of this growing movement in favor of socialist candidates in elections and also aware of the support of this move among many in its own ranks, the SP passed the following motions: "In no event may state or local organizations or individual members support or endorse nominees of the Communist, Trotskyite, or other totalitarian parties."

The most important issue before the convention body was the question of unity. The majority proposed that the convention accept the unity proposal of the Independent Socialist League and its youth group, the Young Socialist League, on the basis of the dissolution of the ISL and YSL and the individual application of their members.

Opposition to the ISL-YSL entry came from two sources—the left and the right. Some of the right-wingers opposed the entry, remembering the militant past of the organizations and their former adherence to Leninism—something which frightens these SPers a good deal more than capitalism.

LEFT-WINGERS OPPOSE UNITY

Left-wingers opposed the entry of Shachtman's group because of its recent support to the right-wing SP-SDF leadership. When this leadership moved to expel left-wingers for supporting the American Forum—for Socialist Education, Shachtman supported the right wing. On the question of electoral action, Shachtman's group came out at its last convention with a position very similar to that of the right wing.

The convention majority voted

to let the 100-200 members of the Shachtman formation into the SP-SDF. However a last-minute effort of oppositionists was strong enough to get a membership referendum on the question.

YOUTH PLANS FOILED

At a joint meeting after the

Dear Editors:

My friend Otto Nathan sent me a copy of the May-June issue with his article and I enclose \$1.00 for a subscription. I also enjoyed Richard DeHaan's article on civil liberties and would like to know the source of that wonderful quote from Malatesta. Compliment DeHaan for me, and you're doing a good job.

Fraternally,
I. F. Stone

unity vote but before the referendum was called the Young People's Socialist League and the YSL elected a National Secretary and arranged a meeting of the National Committees of both groups in New York after the convention where they would formally set up a new organization. It was agreed that they should have a conven-

tion in the fall. Now their entire plan of action is held up until results of the referendum are known.

While the bulk of the left-wingers in the YSL were forced out of that organization last Labor Day for their opposition to unity with the SP-SDF, and have since been instrumental in building the YOUNG SOCIALIST together with socialists of other political backgrounds, there still remain in the YSL a number of people who oppose the dissolution of their organization on such humiliating terms and the watering down of their politics. Some of these will feel it necessary to join the SP and, we hope, fight against the pro-State Department politics of its leadership. Others may not wish to do this; we hope they will join with us immediately in building a new youth movement free from the domination of any adult organization.

Those who join the SP-SDF and wish sincerely to push for their ideas will soon learn that this is impossible. They will learn the lesson that Carl Braden, Hal Charnau, Mike Gural, George Stryker, and other left-wingers have learned. These people recently resigned from the SP-SDF in protest against the anti-democratic policies of the leadership and in recognition of the futility of building a left wing in a right-wing sect.

Students Fight Nuclear Tests . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

President was in Gettysburg for the weekend. The culmination of the weekend was an open air meeting across from the Washington Monument.

STUDENTS TAKE A STAND

This Walk, like the one in New York, was composed mainly of students. Contrary to their usual apathetic state, their reaction to this issue has been a vociferous one, perhaps because this issue is close enough to home to be frightening. Dr. Linus Pauling, atomic scientist, he stated:

"It can be estimated that in a third world war as many as eight hundred million people would be killed by the blast, fire, and immediate radiation effects . . . The release of radioactive materials would do serious harm to the pool of germ plasm, in such a way that hundreds of millions of seriously defective children would be born in succeeding generations, and the human race as we know it might cease to exist."

This is enough to scare every intelligent, thinking human being. The youth are certainly no exception. Despite publicity to the contrary, we want to live, to raise families, keep peaceful jobs, and work toward a better world. Any threat to these desires is bound to rally the opposition of the youth.

Student demonstrations across the nation marked the National Students Day for a Sane Nuclear Policy on May 23. Hundreds of Univ. of Washington students marched through the streets of downtown Seattle carrying signs that read: "Clean Bombs will Leave us with Dirty Hands."

BALLOONS, NOT BOMBS

University of Chicago students organized a similar demonstration on the same day. In New York, students held a rally across from the UN building under an inscription beginning: "We shall beat our swords into plowshares." At this rally, a mushroom-shaped cloud composed of helium balloons was released to fly over the city. Students indicated their support by yelling, "Balloons, not Bombs!"

Japan, who bears the brunt of dangers from the testing, is not sitting quietly while her air and milk are being polluted by the tests. Over 150,000 Japanese students boycotted their classes in 57 universities on May 15 in a strike against continued U.S. and British tests.

The problem that is now beginning to confront those in the Sane movement is, "Where do we go from here?" There seems to be little doubt that the U. S. will be compelled to halt its tests. Not to do so is morally and politically untenable. But after the tests have been stopped, then what? If the people who have supported the minimal agreements thus far can be persuaded to continue joint action after the tests stop, it is possible that an effective action group can be mobilized for complete disarmament, or any other issue that should arise.

To Ex-Commissioner Strauss we say that peace is no longer a back-door issue. It is a question that is being discussed in homes, in newspapers, on radio and TV throughout the world. Perhaps it is you who have been hiding, Admiral Strauss—hiding from the growth of popular opinion in the world. There is no reason for us to hide. We are right, and we will win.

had appeared, he called a special assembly. He then did an about-face on the issue, saying that the socialists had a right to speak, and that he would not again call the police.

The American Civil Liberties Union and the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee were meanwhile deluged with calls from non-socialist students protesting the intimidation.

That afternoon's meeting was attended by YSA members and friends, non-socialists interested in defense of civil liberties, 300 Bronx Science Students, 20 cops—including captains, inspectors, plainclothesmen and FBI agents

—, and a squad of reporters and photographers.

The YSA speakers announced that they were there to enforce their right to speak, and that the cops would have to arrest all of them if they interfered with any one of them. Several independent socialists, non-socialists and Bronx Science students also took the stand to defend the YSA's right to free speech.

Despite numerous stern warnings before the meeting began, the police made no attempt to interfere with it. The socialist speakers addressed the crowd for more than an hour on the political issues of the day.