

Youth Cries Out: Send GI's Home From Middle East

They have done it again! The imperialists are sending troops into Lebanon and Jordan. Once more the "defenders of the free world" have moved to bludgeon back a people struggling for their own freedom.

Everyone knows that a United Nations Commission before the invasion had exploded the myth that Lebanon needed protection against an outside force. Everyone knows that the Iraqi revolution, far from being a coup of agents, expressed the desire of the people to break out of the imperialist prison. Everyone knows that the last party the masses of the Middle East would call on for help would be the U.S. State Department. Yet Washington organized the attack.

How long do the atomic lunatics think they can get away with adding to their list of popular governments overthrown and reactionary ones maintained—all by subversion and aggression, by force and violence? How long do they think they fool people that aggression is defense, that subversion is aid and suppression is freedom?

The lies pour out but the cynical excuses seem to be falling on suspicious ears. And no wonder.

The Korean war had been termed "the most unpopular war in

our history." There can be little surprise then at the lack of popular enthusiasm for this open and clear attack on nations wanting their independence. No one can honestly interpret a U.S. invasion near the borders of the Soviet Union as an act of peace.

Thousands of young Americans have already been forced to risk their lives for reasons which have been hidden from them. One platoon sergeant told a N.Y. Times correspondent shortly after his being dumped in Lebanon, "I don't know what we're doing here..."

Literally millions more, either in the reserves or facing imminent draft, are threatened immediately by this midsummer madness.

All the fears and disgust are more than justified. We know that we can be brutally sacrificed with high sounding sermons by the unfrocked priests of capital. But we must not lose confidence in our ability to change the situation. We dare not; our very lives are at stake.

We add our voices to those in England and the U.S. which are demanding: Bring the troops home!

Recession Hits Youth Hardest; No Summer Jobs

by Tom Leonard

MINNEAPOLIS — One positive fact emerging from the current economic crisis is that new layers of worker and student youth are experiencing in life that American capitalism is not the many splendored thing that school text books proclaim it to be. All available statistics reveal that young unskilled or semi-skilled workers are the ones most affected by layoffs. Unemployment statistics (male workers only) for last February, compiled by the Bureau of Census, reveal that one out of seven workers, 24 years old and younger, were out of work. In the next age group, 25 to 29, one out of eleven were out of jobs. In comparison, workers 55 years of age or older had one out of eighteen unemployed.

Since that time the ranks of unemployed youth have been swelled by "new entries" into the labor force. These include high school and college graduates, and students seeking part time work.

Conservative estimates place the total unemployed figure at five to six million. This estimate has remained fairly stable for the last two or three months and the horn blowers of capitalism are once more glibly declaring like Voltaire's Doctor Pangloss that "this is the best of all possible worlds."

What about the prospects for students seeking part time work, which, in most cases, helps pay the cost of their education? The June 7th Federation News published by the Chicago Federation of Labor, reported on an "Open Letter to Youths Seeking Summer Jobs," circulated by Secretary of Labor, James P. Mitchell. It said

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AFTERMATH OF LITTLE ROCK INTEGRATION REVERSAL:

Embattled Negroes Look for Militant Road Out

by Martha Curti

The recent blows dealt by the courts to integration in Little Rock mark, perhaps, the beginning of a new phase in the struggle of the Negroes for full equality. The Negro movement has traditionally fought primarily on the legal level, seeking favorable legislation and court decisions, and has worked within the Democratic and Republican Parties. Most Negro leaders greeted the 1954 Supreme Court decision banning segregated schools as a vindication of these methods.

Many Negroes, however, are now taking a second look. It is four years since the Supreme Court ruling, yet progress has been mighty slow. Four full years after the Supreme Court outlawed segregated schools, 85 per cent of the Southern Negro children still attend Jim Crow schools. Seven states have refused to budge an inch on the integration question. Hundreds of elaborate gimmicks have been devised by state governments to get around Federal orders to integrate.

RACISTS ORGANIZE

In addition, the organization of racist elements into groups like the White Citizens Councils has increased. Serious economic pressures—loss of employment, withdrawal of credit, etc.—have been brought against militant Negroes. During the past year acts of racial violence—burnings, bombings, beatings, and shootings—have been reported with greater frequency in the press.

Little Rock itself symbolizes the conflict that is occurring throughout the South: the determination of the racists, backed openly or tacitly by the local officialdom, to keep the South lily-white, countered by the equally stubborn determination of the Negroes to fight, to undergo any sacrifices, risk any dangers, until they win full equality. After nine Negro children had attended a white school in Little Rock, courageously enduring all sorts of provocations for a year, their victory was wiped out when the courts granted the school board permission to put off integration until 1960. Now the law is on the side of the racists, who can point to Little Rock and the threat of mob violence—which the local officials

did nothing to prevent—as an excuse to maintain segregated schools.

NEGROES PROBE

How have the Negroes reacted to these setbacks? They are not demoralized; they are as determined as ever to win. But they are critically examining their past, probing, searching, for more effective methods of struggle. Many of them are coming to realize that neither the Democratic nor the Republican Parties can answer their needs. And one leading Negro stated recently, "Many of us have overestimated the automatic power of governmental action or judicial decision."

A legal question is decided not only on the merits of the arguments of senators and judges. Generally it takes a protracted

struggle, involving great numbers of people, to get an important law passed, or to get it enforced after it has been passed. The law is a reflection of the strength and influence of various groups and classes in society. To get more than a superficial understanding of society, we must look beneath the twists and turns of the law for fundamental conflicts.

Looking at things from a purely legalistic framework, we could not explain the seemingly contradictory position the U.S. Government is in, of not being able to enforce its own decrees. This contradiction is perfectly understandable if one looks at the pressures affecting the government in opposite directions. On the one hand, the government is forced to make favorable civil rights decisions from

time to time by the relentless pressure of the Negro people and because of the need to appear "democratic" to the people of the colonial and neutral countries. On the other hand, the government—whether a Democratic or a Republican administration—can not possibly afford to give the Negro full equality. The potential threat to the party machines of a large Negro vote, the threat to businessmen of a strong, unified labor movement in the South, are too great.

BEYOND LEGALISM

Thus we see—and Negroes are beginning to see—that legal struggles are not the most decisive. Not that we give up the fight on the legal level: a legal victory can represent a step forward.

An examination of the greatest strengths and weaknesses of the Negro movement will help us to chart its further course. In Montgomery, Tuskegee, and elsewhere, a new type of organization is being tested—the mass boycott. These place reliance, not upon some "influential" group with interests alien to those of the Negroes, such as the Democratic and Republican Parties, but on the conscious active participation of rank and file Negroes. Not only have these movements won significant gains for Negroes; they have also given immeasurable confidence and pride to the participants.

However, the subservience of the Negro movement to the capitalist parties brings isolation. The Negroes seem to be all alone in their fight. With a few exceptions, Northern labor unions have restricted their activity in this field to the passing of mealy-mouthed resolutions.

Why? The labor bureaucracy has its hands tied by its policy of support to the Democratic Party, dominated by Southerners. The support which the Negro leader-

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THE YOUNG SOCIALIST

Ten Cents

Voice of America's Future

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Carrying signs and shouting "Yankee, Go Home" thousands of Japanese students protest in front of the U.S. Embassy in Japan. This action is symbolic of the feeling of young people throughout the world who oppose the continued testing of nuclear weapons by the United States and England. Demonstrations including large numbers of young people have been held in Britain, Germany and the United States as well as Japan recently.

Mexico: A One-Party Country

by Jerry Lang

(The writer of this article is a young American pacifist presently working a rural community in the heart of Mexico.)

PUEBLA PROVINCE, Mexico—

Although there are a multitude of parties and candidates, Mexico is essentially a one-party state and can give one some insights into how such a state operates. In the national election, held in July, the PRI (Party of Revolutionary Institutions) once again won by an overwhelming majority as it always has since 1917, although its name has changed several times during this time to sort of give an impression of change.

There are three explanations for this victory: (1) the vast majority of the Mexican people are for the PRI; (2) everyone, of

whatever political coloration, is in the PRI anyhow so why look elsewhere; (3) the PRI counts the ballots so no other result is possible. All three explanations are true.

ONE PARTY COUNTRY

The PRI is oriented towards the industrial worker, the unions, and the farmer which makes the government very liberal and very popular. Everyone who wishes to do anything in politics joins the PRI because no one else is going to win. For example the PC (Communist) candidate for governor of

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Reader — Marx Was Wrong!

Dear Editors:

Dr. Otto Nathan's article, "Was Marx Wrong?" (May-June YS) is a fairly good attempt to evaluate the present position of contemporary Marxism. However, his entire argument is involved within the superstructure of Marxism, rather than in its very foundation. He argues against those who: a) say that each country is different with different historical conditions. b) say that capitalism and the changes within it are so profound that explanations developed in Marx's time are not applicable to today's conditions.

Dr. Nathan is working on the assumption that every one who reads his article would agree with the basic tenets of the dialectical approach to history. That is: a) the real world is knowable b) everything is in constant change; c) that the dialectical process is the mode of this change. Now if every one does agree with these a priori statements, (though most Marxists deny that there are any a priori statements involved in Marxism) then there is no need for argument; except from those who could argue that the very idea of change makes Marxism an out-dated philosophy. This however is just using Marxism to disprove Marxism, by doing this you just go round in circles and get nowhere, and very quickly.

ATTENTION: In response to the urgent requests of a number of our supporters to have more time to prepare for and participate in the proposed National Conference we are postponing the Conference until after Labor Day. Watch the September issue for full details on the Conference.

As the entire development of this letter has indicated, my own arguments are within the very foundations of Marxism stated above. In a certain branch of mathematics there are certain theorems, (working theorems) that say that not everything is knowable and work from this bas-

is; one that is quite contradictory with Marxism. The law of change is not a law, but only a hypothesis developed from man's limited knowledge of his universe. Certain statistical theories disagree with this position; such as the entropic approach developed by Norbert Wiener. The dialectical process of change is by far the poorest when analyzing scientific phenomena.

Though this is much too short a letter to go deeply into every criticism I have presented, I have tried to give a superficial rundown of a few of my disagreements. My own position is not in violent disagreement with Marxism; I tried to bring up a few arguments to show that on the whole Marxism is not as scientific as it should be. And to say as Dr. Otto Nathan has said "but [man] is a tool of impersonal forces over which he has no con-

trol," is by far much too grandiose a statement to be taken too literally.

This strict determinist approach, in my mind, can lead to apathy on the part of those socialists who take this too literally.

My own liking for socialism is not based upon the deterministic approach, but rather upon basic MORAL GROUNDS. Morally I feel that socialism is right, since it can in my estimation, guarantee everyone all of their basic needs; something I have not seen capitalism even approach doing. Marxism, then, may be used "... as a guide to action." But to hang onto it with dogmatic worship; to take it literally; to glory in a new gospel, can only lead to stagnation. Stagnation is something I feel Marx tried most to avoid.

Leonard V. Malmquist

The Mexican Elections . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Veracruz was six years later PRI senator from Veracruz.

The PRI does count all the ballots, but the published results do not bear any necessary relation to the ballots cast. The tradition is, than when an opposition candidate is a very popular national figure, the PRI gives him the election and he joins the tiny handful of opposition delegates in the Congress.

For the record, the major opposition parties are the PAN (National Action) which is the party of financiers and certain sections of the clergy; PP (Popular Party) which is the farthest left and includes whatever Marxists and Trotskyists are around; PNM (Mexican Nationalists) and PARM (Authentic Party of the Revolution) both of which are to the left of the PRI.

COMMUNIST PRAYS

Only the PAN and the Communists ran candidates for president in opposition to the PRI's Lopez Mateos. PAN's candidate, Luis M. Alvarez, "reportedly" got

about 20 per cent of the votes, while the Communist candidate, Miguel Lopez, got practically none in spite of his praying at the shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe on election day.

The four major unions in the country are affiliated directly with the PRI and through this tied to the government. The electricians, however, have an independent union which has the reputation at least of being Trotskyist. Its leaders are distinguished for their honesty (no new cadillacs) and therefore are the only major union not subsidized by the government.

During the election Mateos, who was formerly minister of labor, gave very radical sounding campaign speeches and was outspoken in his demands for social justice. He came up with the very popular slogan: "En el petroleo nacionalizado ni un paso atrás," (not a step backward—in spite of U. S. pressure). The only way we will get a glimpse of what Mateos really stands for will be when he takes office in November and announces his cabinet.

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Socialist Unity Gains

The socialists of N.Y. State are presenting in this year's election a united socialist ticket headed by Corliss Lamont of Columbia University and John T. McManus, General Manager of the National Guardian.

What better time could there be for such a move?

Now—when the madmen of Washington are stumbling toward a new Korea in the Middle-East; when humanity cries out for the right to build a new world of peace.

Now—when the security of Americans is left in the not too generous hands of an impersonal, planless and chaotic economy; when the only available employment for thousands of youth will be as cops to guard the oily dollar of imperialism.

Now—when the promising open school door has been cynically slammed in the faces of tens of thousands of Negro youth; when the bulk of the world's peoples have become enthused over the ideas of freedom, independence and socialism.

What better time could there be for a united socialist campaign? We have every hope that this campaign is an anticipation of a bright new movement for socialism in America. We need a movement worthy of the confidence of youth; a movement which can serve our cause of a better humanity.

Editorial Board Expands

The YOUNG SOCIALIST is happy to announce several additions to its editorial board. Ellen Strong, a former member of the Labor Youth League, is an active worker in the peace movement among New York City students. Michael Kovacs is a former member of Has-homer Hatziaer and an active member of the Young Socialist Alliance. Both Kovacs and Strong are recent graduates of Bronx Science High School. George Payne is known to most YS readers for his cartoons and his writings. Formerly a member of the Labor Youth League in New England, he is presently working as a trade union organizer. James Robertson, formerly a leading member of the Young Socialist League and the Independent Socialist League, has returned to the West Coast after functioning on the editorial board. He will act as Western Representative for the YOUNG SOCIALIST. We are also happy to welcome A. Robert Kaufman as a corresponding editor from a new area—Baltimore.

Nagy Speaks Out for Socialist Democracy

by Michael Kovacs

Imre Nagy, "Imre Nagy on Communism: In Defense of the New Course." New York: Frederick A. Praeger, 1957. Pp. XLIV-306. \$5.50.

Several weeks ago, it was announced by the official Hungarian News Agency that Imre Nagy had been executed. He had been charged, according to the communique, with subversion, treason, conspiracy with fascist and imperialist elements, etc., and found "guilty" of those crimes. The communique went on to state:

"All this has been proved by irrefutable evidence in the course of subsequent investigations and at the present trial."

Among the "proof" offered by these prostitutes of the pen are alleged "secret documents" written by Nagy in 1955 and 1956 said to call for the overthrow of "people's democracy" in Hungary and the placing of Hungary "in the hands of the imperialists." These "secret" documents are available in the book "Imre Nagy on Communism."

Nagy had submitted these documents to the Central Committee of the Hungarian Workers Party "... as a justification of my principles and as a detailed reply to the accusations made in public against me since March of 1955." He had been expelled from the Central Committee and ousted from the premiership because of the policies of the "New Course" which had

been previously "supported" by the party leadership. The "New Course" was a period of "softening" which coincided with one in the Soviet Union after Stalin's death.

Before and after Nagy was Premier (1953-1955) Rakosi, a Hungarian imitation of Stalin, held control of the Party apparatus. Using the police-state methods of the sweet-faced, walrus-mustached, pipe-smoking, grandfather-type, he alienated the working class, imprisoned and murdered its leaders, and brought the advanced economy to a point of crisis.

WHERE NAGY STOOD

Nagy pointed out in his documents "... the country and the cause of socialism are being brought to the brink of catastrophe if radical political and personal changes are not carried out quickly. Nothing will aid international imperialism more than the policies of the present leadership, which drives people into the arms of reaction." He later says, "The degeneration of power is seriously endangering the fate of socialism and the democratic basis of our social system. Power is increasingly being torn away from the people and turned sharply against them. The People's Democracy as a type of dictatorship of the proletariat in which the power is exercised by the working class and

depends on the partnership of the two large working groups—the workers and the peasantry and is obviously being replaced by a Party dictatorship which does not rely on Party membership, but relies on a personal dictatorship and attempts to make the Party

means."

From just a few statements from the "secret" documents, it becomes possible to see further into Nagy's political character than from the pages of the N. Y. Daily News or the Worker. Nagy was not a fascist or a "tool of

It is necessary to point out that while he was a socialist, and certainly not an agent of imperialism as he is presently charged, Nagy was not a Bolshevik. He represented the response of the liberal bureaucrat to the working class. While he did respond, he was not completely sure of, did not trust the working class.

NAGY AND THE WORKERS

Thus, Nagy during the revolution recognized the Worker's Councils but did not allow them to become the ruling power. Instead, he formed a coalition government composed of Communists, Social Democrats, Smallholders and Peasant parties. (It should be noted that none of these were fascist movements and all promised to defend nationalized property in land and in industry.) He called upon UN troops to protect the neutrality of Hungary. This is not the action of a Leninist.

The "crime" the Soviet bureaucracy charges Nagy with is not that he did not lead the workers' socialist revolution against stalinism in the fullest most Leninist way but that he allowed himself to be associated with it at all. He was murdered because of the great fear that the Soviet bureaucracy has of the drive of the Soviet bloc workers towards the reconstitution of socialist democracy and a return to the revolutionary concepts of the October Revolution.



apparatus and through it the Party membership a mere tool of this dictatorship. Its power is not permeated by the spirit of socialism or democratism, but by a Bonapartist spirit of minority dictatorship. Its aims are not determined by Marxism, the teaching of scientific socialism, but by autocratic views that are maintained at any cost and by any

the imperialists" trying to restore capitalism, he was a socialist who wished to defend the existing planned, progressive economic system and democratize the regime. It is extremely important that every Socialist and Communist who wishes to understand, not only Nagy's political character, but that of the Hungarian revolution, read this book.

NEW YORKERS WIN COURT TEST AS:

Philadelphia Cops Bully Young Socialist Distributors

by Arlene Bernstein

PHILADELPHIA—"Two distributors of the YOUNG SOCIALIST were arrested after giving out the paper at Central High School on Wednesday afternoon, June 18. They were charged with 'refusing to identify' themselves, 'causing a disturbance,' and 'resisting arrest.' The charges did not stick. The two people, a boy and a girl, were released. This establishes the right to distribute." So said a leaflet entitled "Why we distribute the YOUNG SOCIALIST," distributed at Philadelphia's Central High School for Boys.

POLICE BULLY

Many students saw the police bully and smack the boy. Many watched a few of their fellow students who, without police intervention, chased the five young socialists who were not arrested. With this event, "Central" became an arena of political discussion. A liberal-minded teacher invited one of the distributors to speak to a biology class. He wanted his students to have a basis for either agreement or disagreement with the YS. Over phones, in the lunchroom and classrooms, the students buzzed with the story.

When the above leaflet was distributed, students were eager to read it and some students were anxious to discuss socialism. But this time a minority of students who wanted to interfere with the distribution tried to force everyone to throw the leaflets into a fire which they built. They followed this with an attempt to chase the two girls who were distributing. Other students protested and a lively battle raged concerning the true meaning of "Democracy" and "Civil Rights."

SCHOOL CLOSES

Then came the last day of



James Robertson, now YS's Western Representative, holds the flag while YS editorial board member James Lambrecht addresses a crowd of students in front of Bronx Science High School in New York during the recent free speech fight there.

school . . . but the young socialists had more to say. When they arrived, they found the students full with the joy of release from the confining walls of their classrooms. The two girls walked into a huge crowd of students to pass out another leaflet, this time announcing a meeting on "What Is Socialism?"

The rowdies were again quick to begin heckling—and fires were once more built in trashcans for burning leaflets, while in the background there were many who began singing the "Star Spangled Banner."

Despite this, the leaflets were very quickly in the hands of students, most of whom intended to

read them. And when the distribution was over, the girls began to leave.

The incident would have dissolved peacefully but for the arrival of 10 cops in 2 paddy wa-

NADIR OF SOCIALIST MORALITY:

SP-SDF Backs McCarthyite Against YS

(The following are in sequence a letter sent to Norman Thomas in protest over the Socialist Party's role in the refusal of the McCarthyite William Rusher to debate YS editor Tim Wohlforth, the answer sent by Comrade Thomas, and the answer received when following Comrade Thomas' suggestion Wohlforth wrote directly to the SP-SDF.) Dear Comrade Thomas:

This is an official protest to your party concerning certain actions of two of its leaders. We request an official reply and explanation of those actions.

The YOUNG SOCIALIST is the only nationwide socialist youth newspaper and the expression of some fifteen socialist clubs throughout this country and Canada which are independent of any adult group and admit all socialists (including SP-SDF members) to their ranks without qualification. The YOUNG SOCIALIST recently organized a debate between its editor, Tim Wohlforth, and William Rusher, publisher of the ultra-rightist National Review, on the subject: "What Road Out for France: Gaullism or Socialism?"

At the last minute, we received a telegram from Rusher reading as follows: "I accepted the invitation of the YOUNG SOCIALIST to debate this evening under the impression that it was an organization approved by the Socialist Party, with which I violently disagree, but whose good faith I have never questioned. I have now been advised, however, by Samuel Friedman, the state chairman of the Socialist Party, and Herman Singer, the editor of the Socialist Call, that the YOUNG SOCIALIST is not approved by the Socialist Party and in fact has no greater claim to the name 'socialist' than the Communist Party or the National Socialists of Germany. Accordingly, rather than participate in a debate that cannot be depended upon to meet the ordinary tests of intellectual candor, I regretfully decline to debate at all. William Rusher."

Friedman verified to a reporter by telephone that Rusher had quoted him correctly, and that he believed the YOUNG SOCIALIST misused the term in the same way as have the Communists and

Nazis. He further stated that the YOUNG SOCIALIST is "a Trotskyite front," and that such groups can legitimately be compared to fascists.

Our first objection is that Friedman's statements were made in complete ignorance of the facts. There is the obvious smear of "Trotskyite front," for which neither he nor anyone else can provide a shred of evidence. Furthermore, Friedman and Singer apparently did not take the trouble to check the correctness of Rusher's statements. The meeting chairman, Richard DeHaan, who is a member of the YOUNG SOCIALIST Editorial Board and Chairman of the Young Socialist Alliance, read a statement from the platform including the following:

"On May 28, more than three weeks ago, James Robertson, Business Manager of the YOUNG SOCIALIST, and I, met with Mr. Rusher in his office, subsequent to a telephoned proposal from us for this debate. Virtually the first question Rusher asked of us—before he was willing to discuss anything connected with the debate—had to do with the political character of the YOUNG SOCIALIST and the Young Socialist Alliance. We replied with a brief description, stating specifically that neither the paper nor the organization had any connection with any political party or adult socialist group. Rusher asked specifically whether we had any connection with the Socialist Party-Social Democratic Federation. I specifically replied that we did not. Indeed, so emphatic was my reply, that Rusher felt obliged to comment on it. When I spoke to him on the phone a little while ago, he could not manage to recall this incident."

Second, and most important, we protest the absolute disintegration of socialist morality from which these actions stem. We have been subjected to similar McCarthyite attacks from SP-SDF leaders in the past, and have come to expect it. We would never expect, however, any socialist to unite with virtual fascists in protecting the latter against debating on a socialist platform. Friedman and Singer's action in cooperating with Rusher to "finger" fel-

lows and 3 patrol cars, who immediately sparked an increased confidence among the rowdies who felt that reinforcements had arrived. Traffic was blocked as passers-by stopped to watch 10 fierce-looking officers milling about while two boys who admitted that they were encouraged by an officer to attack the girls, tore away from one of them 50 copies of the YS.

A young student was dragged across the street into a wagon when he was seen talking to the two girls and writing their phone numbers. He was turned over to the juvenile authorities.

The young socialists were taken in for "investigation," and were again released without being booked or investigated, proving that the main interest of the police was in breaking up the distribution—that is, curbing free speech.

The combination of police and "young tough" elements did not succeed in squelching the determination of the YS distributors, nor did it prevent them from scoring a victory in the fight for freedom to express minority ideas.

low socialists is the very nadir of socialist morality. The justification which Friedman gives seems to be a revival of the justly-discredited Communist theory of "social fascism," whereby everyone who disagrees with one is promptly labelled an objective ally of fascism. And, also precisely like the Communists, it does not bother Friedman and Singer one whit to unite with the class enemy in fingering their fellow socialists.

Finally, the whole incident takes on added relevance in the light of the subject of the debate itself. Just as deGaulle turns to his Mollet and Lacoste for advice and aid in combatting socialism, so the American Gaullists turn to their Mollet and Lacoste for the same purposes.

Friedman and Singer's actions would seem to indicate that they are no longer fit to bear the name "socialist," and, in view of their desire to frustrate the fundamental democratic principles of the free exchange of ideas and confrontation of opinion, one is compelled in addition to wonder even about their liberalism.

We ask an explanation of these actions because we can hardly believe that the great traditions of your party have degenerated to this level.

Fraternally,
Tim Wohlforth, Editor
For the Editorial Board

Dear Mr. Wohlforth:

If you want an official reply and explanation of the actions of Messrs. Friedman and Singer, you must address your request to the proper authorities, not to myself. I am not even a member of the executive committee and if I were I would not be a pope or try to emulate Lenin or Trotsky or any other communist in control of the Party.

Sincerely yours,
Norman Thomas

Dear Tim Wohlforth:

Acknowledgement is made of the receipt of your letter of June 29, 1958.

Thank you for communicating with us.

Irwin Suall
National Secretary, Socialist
Party-Social Democratic
Federation

The YOUNG SOCIALIST and its supporters have from the very inception of the publication, a little under a year ago, been subject to harassment and persecution by police officials, college administrations and others for practicing free speech.

At UCLA the college newspaper, in the control of reactionaries, greeted the distribution of the very first issue of the YS with a full scale McCarthyite red-baiting attack. The distribution of the YS at the University of Colorado in Boulder provoked a lengthy controversy on the rights of any dissident group to distribute on campus. Following the intervention in behalf of the YS by the Colorado American Civil Liberties Union, the Colorado University regents ruled in favor of allowing the publication on campus. At the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor the college paper likewise tried to witch-hunt the YS. However student pressure forced the paper and the college administration to back down.

More recently members of the Young Socialist Alliance, the New York City club supporting the YOUNG SOCIALIST, have been harassed by the police department for practicing free speech on the streets of New York and selling the YS. In the course of a series of street meetings in front of Bronx Science High School (see the July YS) Richard DeHaan of the YS editorial board and Russell Jones of the YSA were issued summonses for "holding a street meeting without a permit." On July 14 the Bronx Magistrates Court found them not guilty. The Workers Defense League, which defended the two young socialists, pointed out that a permit was not necessary in order to hold a street meeting and that the defendants were simply exercising their constitutional rights.

Two other members of the YSA were issued summonses on July 5 for distributing leaflets and newspapers at the Lewisohn Stadium in New York City. Their case is still pending. A similar case involving YSA members was won last fall with the assistance of the New York Civil Liberties Union. Distributors of the YOUNG SOCIALIST at Central High School in Philadelphia have been subject to police bullying tactics and threatened with jail (see above).

The YOUNG SOCIALIST intends to continue the distribution and sale of its paper and the holding of public outdoor meetings explaining the ideas of militant socialism throughout this country and Canada. It does not intend to give in to the pressure of the police, and the McCarthyites. To do so would be to contribute to the continuation of the witchhunting atmosphere that still prevails in this country.

It will continue to militantly propagate the ideas of socialism openly in every major city in the United States and Canada and in the high school and college campuses. It hopes that the fight for its free speech will strengthen the democratic rights of everybody in this country—rights that have been so severely weakened over the last ten years.

Youth Notes

PANAMA—A large number of high school and university students in this country protested recently in front of the American Embassy against the visit of Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower. They carried placards reading: "Milton Go Back to U.S.A." and "Panama Canal for Panamanians." . . . As part of de Gaulle's propaganda campaign to make the world think that the Algerian people back his government he staged a Bastille Day parade including a large number of Moslems. However as they passed the reviewing stand a number of valiant Moslem youth waved flags of the Algerian rebel movement and shouted "Peace in Algeria." For this expression of the real sentiments of the Algerian people the teen-agers were taken into custody. . . . It has just

DETROIT — Approximately 40 persons participated in a Peace Walk on July 4 in this city. Over half the participants were young people including students from Wayne State University and Eastern Michigan College. Even though a legal permit had been obtained for the venture, police photographers were on hand to harass the walkers. . . . The Socialist Youth Committee of Chicago has been holding a series of discussions. Its most recent one was on the topic of "Socialist Electoral

MALTA—The following is a report on conditions in this small British colony from Joe Sammut, General Secretary, Malta Labour League of Youth. It is condensed from an article in the British Labor youth paper Keep Left: "Today, over Malta reigns the terror of colonial rule. Demonstrations, however silent or peaceful they may be, are banned in all parts of the island. Public meetings cannot be held. This, perhaps, is the most serious blow to western democracy, of which the British Tories boast to the allies but do not practice with members of the Commonwealth.

come to our attention that a group of young people were taken under police custody in Puerto Rico this spring for entering a public square, yelling cheers for the Republic of Puerto Rico and for Dr. Campos, Nationalist Party leader who presently lies in a Puerto Rican prison for advocating the independence of Puerto Rico from the United States. . . . At present there are over 1,000,000 boy and girl scouts in Poland, the only Soviet bloc country with such an organization. However the international scouting movement will not accept the Polish Scouts into membership because they say the atheistic government of Poland violates the Boy Scout Oath which requires "duty to God."

Policy." . . . The Young Socialist Alliance of New York has been holding a very successful forum series in its new hall (144 Second Ave.) Each forum is started by a short presentation from a young speaker. Then a full-fledged floor discussion follows in which a variety of points of view are expressed. Among the forums still to be held are: "A Decade of Cold War" (Aug. 8); "The Crisis in American Liberalism" (Aug. 22); and "The Colonial Revolution" (Sept. 5).

Because Labour youths barricaded streets during the one day strike and Maltese workers showed solidarity in their strong protests against Britain's "Might is Right" policy, about 100 men, mostly young Labour supporters, were arrested and more are still being arrested. Despite all this I am confident that with a united Labor front consolidated by an ever active Labour youth movement, both the domestic and constitutional reform issues will be solved in accordance to the wishes of the Maltese community through its legitimate leaders in the Malta Labour Party."

Recession Hits Young Workers The Hardest . . .

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in part, "Because there are more teenage youths than ever before, and because economic conditions are not as favorable as in the last few years, young people in general cannot expect to find summer jobs with the same ease as in other recent years. Because in many areas jobs are not as plentiful, competition for them is keener."

While figures substantiating Mitchell's views are not yet available, there is every reason to believe they are accurate. Early last May, for example, the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Minneapolis and other conservative Minneapolis youth organizations, set up a Youth Employment Service (YES) under adult supervision. Despite wide publicity YES has not been very successful. On June 28th, an editorial in the Minneapolis Star said in part, "The YES kids are all set to go, but not enough people around town have discovered their new organization."

"They are the eager students (ages 13-19) who have signed up with the Youth Employment Service in the hope of getting summer jobs. So far, about 1,800 boys and girls have filled out applications, but only a few have actually been employed."

In order to turn the attention of thinking youth away from the fact that unemployment is an expression of the inability of capitalism to rationally plan the needs

of society, its defenders resort to divide and conquer tactics.

Currently they are trying to turn unemployed worker and student youth against the unions.

According to the April 11th U.S. News and World Report, "There's something new in today's pattern of unemployment that is raising serious concern about the future. What is new is this: It's the young man—not the older worker—who is being hit hardest in this recession."

The article goes on to say that the "reason for a large part of high unemployment among young workers, however, is being found in the growth of labor unions, and in the rules that unions enforce to protect the jobs of their members."

"Young workers have not been on the jobs long enough to acquire the seniority they need to protect them in times of falling production."

FALSE CHARGE

It is utterly false to imply that there is something new in the fact that youth are hardest hit in this "recession" as compared to previous economic crises. According to the conservative figures released last February by the Bureau of Census, there were 1,264,000 unemployed youth between the ages of 16-24 out of an estimated 20,000,000 males and females in this age group nationally.

VIEW FROM THE DITCH:

Under the Texas Sun for \$.70 an Hour

by Mike Torres

The further South one travels the worse working conditions get, especially where there are no unions and a worker has little or no security.

Once I had the dubious honor of working in southern Texas, digging ditches for a water company. Down there unions are almost considered subversive, and the bosses aren't worried about them, not yet. The conditions were worse than any in the North that I had ever experienced even in cockroach shops. I met several workers who were in the few unions they did have, carpenters and such, but I never met anyone who was making more than \$1.70 an hour.

This \$1.70 an hour was \$1 more an hour than I was making digging ditches. Now if this comes as a surprise to anyone let me

say that some time ago when a law to raise the minimum wage in Puerto Rico to \$1 an hour was introduced, every official connected with Puerto Rico opposed it. It would have raised most wages 50 to 70 per cent. This was bad because then the bosses would pack up and leave Puerto Rico, and we wouldn't want that. But to get back to Texas, where conditions are slightly different.

We worked 10 hours a day and four on Saturday, unless the foreman allowed us to work 8 hours, all for straight time. All the workers were Mexican. The foreman was also Mexican so that he could give orders in English or Spanish and would know what was being said. The foreman was always around to make sure that not an ounce of energy was wasted. I can picture him now, standing

over me in the ditch, yelling, "A little more dirt on the shovel, Mike, a little more dirt."

Once in a while the foreman would have to go somewhere and some of us would stand in the shade of a tree to rest a little. Being from the "North" the workers would bombard me with questions on conditions up "North," and I in turn asked about conditions in general and this job in particular.

Talking to one worker I learned that no one on the job ever got a raise. A worker with years of seniority was making as much as I, a newcomer. No one ever got a vacation, except perhaps two or three holidays a year. If one ever got sick and was layed up a day or more, he would find that he no longer had a job.

This fellow had worked in the office at one time, but he got sick one day and when he went back they allowed him to work again—digging ditches. He laughed a little when he began to tell me about it.

"I used to wear a white shirt," he said. "I met all the big shots and they used to talk to me with respect; my hands were always clean. But things sure changed, and fast. My hands are always dirty. I don't wear white shirts any more; I don't see the big shots any more. If I did they wouldn't talk to me, and the attitude of the foreman sure changed."

In a way I felt sorry for him, so I said, "Well don't feel too bad about it, after all the foreman treats us all like dirt. At least he doesn't treat you any worse than the rest of us."

"That's true," he said, "but why should he; after all, he's my brother."

QUOTATIONS — A young trade unionist wrote us recently and urged that we print good quotes from the old radicals, labor songs, poetry and the like. Here are some that he suggested:

"Years ago I recognized my kinship with all living things, and I made up my mind that I was not one whit better than the meanest of the earth. I said then, I say now, that while there is a lower class, I am in it; while there is a criminal element, I am of it; while there is a soul in prison, I am not free."

Eugene V. Debs.

"Man's dearest possession is life, and since it is given him to live but once, he must so live as not to be seared with the shame of a cowardly and trivial past, so live as not to be tortured for years without purpose, so live that dying he can say 'All my life and my strength were given to the finest cause in the world—the liberation of mankind.'"

—V. I. Lenin.

"I hold that while man exists it is his duty to improve not only his own condition but to assist in ameliorating mankind."

—A. Lincoln.



Ernest Green, Little Rock Central High's first Negro graduate adjusts his cap. Will he be the last to graduate?

Little Rock . . .

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ship and the trade union bureaucracy give to the two major parties, ostensibly as a weapon against isolation and a means of exerting influence, serves in actuality to do just the opposite: to isolate the Negro and the labor movements from each other, and to weaken considerably the tremendous influence they could exert as a com-

bined, independent force.

Within this framework we can attempt to answer the question: To what group can we look to solve the Negro problem? In whose interest does Negro equality lie? Obviously, the Negroes themselves. But the "Negro people" is not a homogeneous entity. Within the Negro population are the same class divisions and antagonisms that exist in the society as a whole. A Negro worker has more in common with a white worker than with a Negro businessman. The Negro bourgeoisie is for civil rights, of course—as long as they do not threaten his own social position. Full Negro equality is in the interests of the white workers; for as long as a section of the class is underpaid and held back, forming a source for cheap labor and the division of the labor movement, the working class as a whole can never emancipate itself.

The breaking away of Negro and white workers to form a labor party would be a colossal step, and would release a vast potential of strength. A labor party will by no means solve the problems; it will merely provide an instrument with which to tackle them. In the course of their struggle, the Negro people will come to realize that the root of their oppression is the capitalist class, and that they, together with other working people, must tear out this root in order to get what is rightly theirs. They will find that their struggle is part of that general struggle against all oppression, all injustice, all inhumanity—the struggle to build a socialist world.

fight unemployment. This would include the demand for a shorter work week with no reduction in pay, which already has wide support among rank and file union members. Among other things it should also include the demand that all unemployed youth including new high school and college graduates be entitled to receive unemployment compensation.

ARE YOUTH BEAT?

In a letter to the June 29th Minneapolis Tribune, one "beat" teenager writes: "No generation is all bad, and none is all good. All any age asks of its elders is the right to make its own mistakes and to find its own way in the life it makes for itself."

It was this kind of optimism which led young workers and students to participate in the great strike battles of the thirties out of which was born today's powerful trade union movement.

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