

800 Hear John Gates at Columbia Forum

By HARRY RAYMOND

John Gates, editor of the Daily Worker, who was banned from speaking at five municipal colleges during Academic Freedom Week, yesterday told 800 students at Columbia University that their invitation for him to speak at their forum "struck a blow for the Bill of Rights for all Americans."

Gates addressed a forum of the John Dewey Society in McMillin Theatre on the university campus. On the panel of speakers was Socialist leader Norman Thomas and Bertram D. Wolfe, anti-Communist writer. Dr. James Guttman, chairman of the Columbia Department of Philosophy, acted as mediator.

Gates stated he believed the Communist Party "has a future."

"One reason I believe so," he said, "is because of what emerged from the recent Communist Party convention—a policy of support for a democratic, anti-monopoly political realignment in our nation as the next great historical development in America's political evolution. This anti-monopoly coalition is the historical precondition for a peaceful transition to socialism through the democratic struggles of the American people within the developing constitutional process."

Thomas told the students that as a Socialist he regretted that he had to come to an institution not supported by public funds for a discussion on communism.

He asked Gates a series of nine questions and handed him a petition calling for the withdrawal of Russian troops from Hungary. Thomas said he would like to know if Gates would sign the petition.

"I will sign any petition put out by anybody for the withdrawal of all foreign troops, the Soviet troops from the East, and the Allied troops from the West," Gates declared during the brief rebuttal period.

Replying to Thomas' inquiry as to whether the American Communists gave their main allegiance to the Soviet Union, Gates said that the American Communist Party "has no other allegiance than to the American people."

Wolfe, who was the third speaker, centered his attack on Marxist ideology which, he said, advocated "totalitarian control by the party." He claimed that the system advocated by Communists was the "most irresponsible" ever devised.

"This party differs from all other parties in that it plays for keeps," Wolfe declared.

Thomas disagreed with Gates' remark that one-third of the world was socialist. "When those tanks that rumbled through the streets of Budapest," Thomas declared, "I don't call that socialism."

He pointed out, however, that Gates and his co-worker must not only be judged by what they say but what they do.

Speaking of the recent Communist Party convention, Gates told the students:

"For the first time in our history all sessions of our convention were open to a number of non-communist and anti-communist observers, coming from such organizations as the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Catholic Worker, and others interested in civil liberties. For the past year the Communist Party has been engaged in a vigorous, free-wheeling public debate. The clash of opinion and discussion of differ-

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Daily Worker

Registered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1979

Vol. XXXIV, No. 56
(8 Pages)

New York, Tuesday, March 19, 1957
Price 10 Cents

Magsayay
and the
Communists

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MCCARTHY CALLS FOR UAW PROBE



MCCARTHY



WALTER REUTHER



SEN. McCLELLAN

DETROIT, March 18—Sen. Joseph McCarthy (R-Wis) until now a silent member of the McClellan racket probers' committee, yesterday announced in Milwaukee that he would ask the Senate committee to turn its investigations to the United Auto Workers, the country's largest union.

According to this morning's Detroit Free Press, McCarthy said:

"From the information I have, what we haven't covered in our investigation of the Teamsters union, will smell like a high grade perfume in comparison to what we will find in the Reuther union, and that is not just a wild comparison."

McCarthy, according to the story published here, indicated he has compiled a considerable file on UAW affairs, but he refused to discuss its nature. He said, "I would be violating the confidence of the committee if I started to discuss that."

McCarthy said he didn't know when the McClellan committee would place the UAW on the agenda, but said he was ready to bring his demand up before the committee if he has too.

UAW spokesmen in Detroit refused to dignify the McCarthy statement with a reply at this time, but said that if any Senate committee is interested in the UAW the union has nothing to conceal.

The UAW is known to be one of the unions most concerned with the menace of racketeering, with its president, Walter Reuther, most outspoken for a cleanup. Nor have there been any claims even by the UAW's enemies that there is any racketeering or other type of "unethical" practices in its ranks.

The union, in the main, has been a target for its militancy in strikes and its active participation in political campaigns. It is the

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House Unit Okays Civil Rights Bill; Seek Quick Floor Action

WASHINGTON, March 18—The House Judiciary Committee today approved a somewhat watered down version of President Eisenhower's proposed civil rights bill. The committee beat down new southern attempts to weaken the bill further. There was no rollcall vote on final committee approval. But chairman Emanuel Celler (D-NY) said about three-fifths of the members present ap-

proved the final version, while the other two-fifths opposed it. It is expected that the House committee's action today will speed the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on constitutional rights to report out the House bill's companion measure. Hearings ended in the Senate subcommittee on March 5, but the bill has not yet been reported to the full Senate Judiciary Committee.

Bus Arrests of 22 In Birmingham Argued

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 18.—The city of Birmingham argued in court today it had the right to enforce bus segregation with police powers despite any federal rulings.

Records Court Judge Ralph Parker heard argument for two hours and then took under advisement the city's case against 22 Negroes charged with violating bus segregation ordinances. The 22 were taken to jail last Dec. 28 after more than 100 Negroes staged a mass unsegregated riding attempt. City attorney James J. Willis also asserted that the U. S. Supreme Court had "constantly dodged" giving reasons why segregation ordi-

him off the bus or we'll kill him." Shores asked if Higginbotham arrested the white man for making the threat.

"No," the policeman answered. He said also he filed no later charges.

Shores argued that Jackson had paid his fare and was not creating a disturbance.

Meanwhile, Federal Judge Hobart Grooms still had not set a

speed the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on constitutional rights to report out the House bill's companion measure. Hearings ended in the Senate subcommittee on March 5, but the bill has not yet been reported to the full Senate Judiciary Committee.

Sen. Thomas C. Hennings (D-Mo), chairman of the Senate Constitutional Rights subcommittee, has been said to be waiting for House committee action before calling a meeting of his group to take up the bill.

Both Celler and Rep. Kenneth B. Keating (N. Y.) ranking Republican on the Committee, predicted the House could approve the committee's version, "overwhelmingly."

Celler said he would write chairman Howard W. Smith (D-Va) of the Rules committee today asking for prompt clearance of the bill for House action.

He said the only obstacle is to "get it by the Rules committee."

4 Teamster Officials Indicted

WASHINGTON, March 18—A Federal Grand Jury today indicted four Teamster Union of-

Columbia

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ences within the Communist Party has attracted a widespread interest and had an important impact on the country.

It has demonstrated that the Communist Party has begun to change, that it has become more democratic and less monolithic. It has proved that the old charge that the Communist Party is a conspiracy is untrue, that we make our own decisions, openly discussed and openly arrived at.

The Communist Party has a future because it stands for socialism. It is the capitalist system which is cultivating its usefulness and faces the future with dread and uncertainty. Socialism is the public ownership of the great industries of our country under a government of the people, led by American labor. It would mean a great expansion of our present democracy, superior in every respect to what we have today, truly corresponding to the abolition of the exploitation of man by man which socialism accomplishes. It would mean bringing to an end the roots of imperialism, war, injustice and inequality so characteristic of capitalism.

All questions during the question period were directed to Gates, which provoked some amusement. A highlight of this phase was the challenge by Gates to the other speakers to join in the position that all foreign troops get out of all countries. Wolfe demurred, saying this was a Soviet aim, but Thomas commented that he did not think that this was an idle dream, and that given a united UN it might be put into effect.

Gates told the students he believed the Communist Party has a future "because socialism is the future of the United States."

"We no longer insist, however, that we are God's chosen people and that only we can lead America to socialism," Gates declared.

"But we do have a vital role to play and an essential contribution to make."

He said that denial of constitutional rights to Communists, as in the case of the Negro people and other minorities, has caused and still causes "great damage to the democracy and well-being of all Americans."

The audience applauded vigorously when Gates said it was his belief that the first important step in the struggle for peace would be the ending of H-bomb tests in all countries.