

# THE MILITANT

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## Brownell Flouts Court Ruling on 'Subversive' List

By Farrell Dobbs

The protest filed by the Socialist Workers Party against its redesignation on the U.S. Attorney General's "subversive" list has been arbitrarily rejected by the Eisenhower administration.

As National Secretary of the SWP, I had sent a formal notice of contest to the Department of Justice. According to the SWP attorneys, the notice complied with all the regulations prescribed by the Attorney General for challenging the "subversive" designation under the new Eisenhower "security" order.

The Attorney General, in his

reply, challenged my authority as the executive officer of the party and ruled that the protest was invalid.

This crude violation of the constitutional rights of the SWP provides a new demonstration of the hypocritical policy of the Eisenhower administration. It represents a cynical flaunting of U.S. Supreme Court rulings concerning the legal rights of those victimized by the witch hunters.

The "subversive" blacklist, which is perpetuated and extended under the Eisenhower "security" order, was originated in 1947 by the Truman administration. It quickly became the principal instrument for attacks on political opponents by the party in power.

### CHARGES KEPT SECRET

Scores of organizations were stigmatized "subversive" by the Truman regime. None of the victims were informed of the charges against them. They were denied the right to confront their accusers or to have any kind of a hearing. Meanwhile they were publicly smeared in the news papers and through television witch-hunting orgies by Congressional committees.

Many people have been humiliated before their friends and (Continued on page 2)

## Atrocities Reports On GI Prisoners Revealed As False

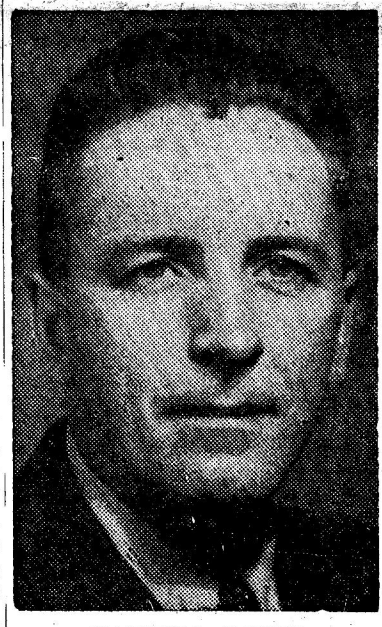
The prisoner exchange in Korea has provided an occasion for the U.S. military brass, with the aid of the venal pro-war press, to revive their propaganda alleging mass atrocities against American captives in North Korea.

As on previous occasions, a few individual unchecked stories are blown up and exaggerated to give a totally false impression. According to the usually reliable Christian Science Monitor, however, "those who have talked with scores of returned Allied prisoners" both last April and now "counsel caution in accepting certain stories that stir sensational headlines."

"Among those cited are reports concerning atrocities, withholding of American prisoners, and Americans who do not wish to come home. . . . Mistreatment, lack of medical attention, shortages of food and clothing, and outright torture did occur, according to eyewitness reports. Personal abuse and torture, however, were fairly isolated instances. . . . Few stories are written about the bulk of men who experienced no harrowing incidents."

Henry S. Hayward, Chief Far Eastern Correspondent, who wrote the above in the Aug. 10 Monitor, complains of "heavy pressure on newsmen" to "distort a valid small story into a major sensation."

No pressure appears to be put on them even to report the sensational U.S. admission that 8,400 Communist prisoners have died in U.S. prison camps in Korea.



FARRELL DOBBS

## Akron, Chicago, Newark Take Lead in Fund Drive

By Reba Aubrey, Campaign Manager

Branches of the Socialist Workers Party contributed \$1,159 this week to the \$18,000 Party-Building and Publications Fund, raising the total paid through Aug. 17 to \$8,335 or 46% of the national quota. The lag increased again this week. We are now 23% behind schedule — and only four weeks to go.

Akron crossed the goal line to 117% and first place on the scoreboard. Their \$85 contribution did it.

Chicago, in second place with 78%, is pounding toward the goal. According to Comrade Hilda Smith, they "are now working to get the whole amount in well before the deadline." Their check for \$90 was "not as much" as they would have "liked to send," so they will be glad to know that one of their comrades, holding down a summer job in New Jersey, sent in the full amount of her \$50 pledge which has been credited to Chicago's score.

Newark added \$60 to its total. Comrade A. Seton says: "According to my reckoning, this puts Philadelphia ahead of schedule. We still intend to go over the top, and I see no reason why we shouldn't. So, wish us luck!"

St. Louis' 73% keeps them among the top seven again this week.

Buffalo and Minneapolis-St. Paul each scored an on-schedule bull's-eye with 69% — Buffalo with \$96 and the Twin Cities with \$238. "This," writes Comrade V. R. Dunne of Minneapolis, "will

push up our standing on the scoreboard."

The above on-schedule branches will come in at an easy pace, if they hold to their present pace. But the other 13 branches, some still dawdling around the starting post, will really have to hustle.

Cleveland and Pittsburgh moved \$10 closer toward their goals, and Flint took up some of the slack in its percentage with a \$50 check. Comrade Genora says: "We may not be able to keep up with the schedule, but you need not worry about Flint."

Los Angeles added \$258.50 to its score; New York added \$42; Milwaukee \$10.

Comrade Frank Powers sent this note with \$71 from Seattle: "Sorry that we have fallen behind. We are still hoping to meet our quota IN FULL AND ON TIME, but it will take some doing."

Youngstown made a \$37 gain. "Collections on the Party-Building and Publications Fund have been slow because of vacations," writes M. Jones, "but now that all the comrades are back we hope to do better in the next couple of weeks and we are sure that we will be able to complete our quota on time, as we have always done."

(See scoreboard: Page 3)

# Millions of French Strikers Defy Government Ultimatum

## Nation-Wide Strike Flairs In Ceylon

A general strike flared up in Ceylon Aug. 12. The frightened government declared a state of emergency, called out troops and turned its guns on the demonstrating masses. The press reported 21 killed and 215 wounded. Police arrested 380, including an unidentified "Communist leader" of South Ceylon.

The government decree established the death penalty for arson, looting and trespass. For spreading false rumors, 20 years in prison can be imposed. Another proviso makes it possible to outlaw any political organization in opposition to the government.

### PREPARED FOR WEEKS

The general strike came as no surprise. Unions and other organizations took weeks preparing a one-day "hartal" — a peaceful work stoppage, and set Aug. 12 as the date.

The principal demand was that the Government resign and call new elections.

This demand arose when the present Government broke all its election promises about safeguarding the workers' standard of living. The All Ceylon Shop Employees' Union, for example, passed a resolution Aug. 2 that stated in part:

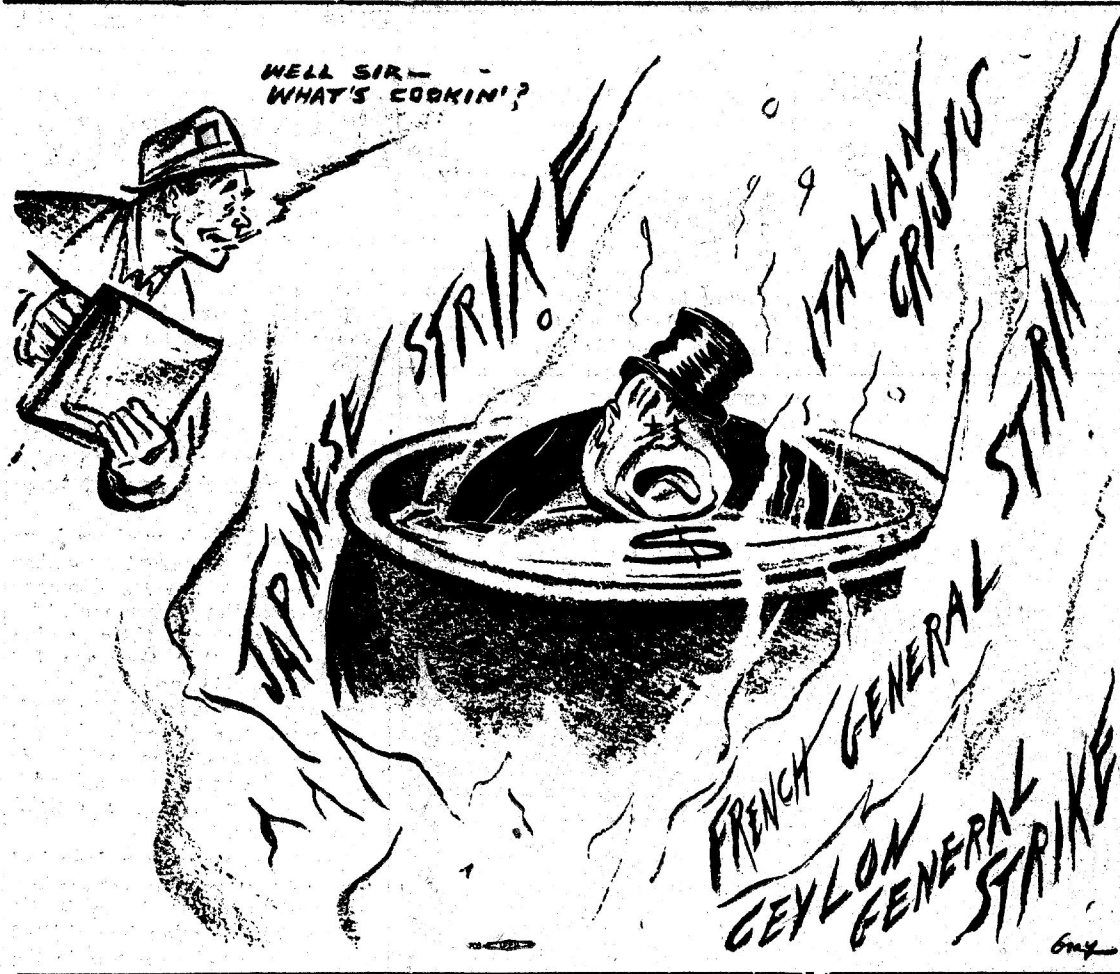
"The UNP Government has forfeited its right to maintain office because (a) it has reduced the rice ration, while increasing the price; (b) it has deprived school children of their free mid-day meal; (c) it has increased the price of sugar and has maintained the new price despite mass protests; (d) it has increased the postal rates and railway fares.

"The UNP Government must be forced to resign and face the country at a general election and therefore the Hartal and the General Strike of Aug. 12 as a step in mass struggle against the UNP deserves full and unconditional support."

### TROTSKYIST ROLE

In three special hartal issues, the Lanka Samasamaja Party (Trotskyists) warned that the Government was combining minor concessions with open preparations for violence under excuse of "the familiar Red bogey."

Trotskyists were in the forefront of preparations for the general strike but as yet we have not received direct news about any reprisals the Government may have taken against them.



## Chicago Negro Family Defies Racist Mobsters

In a series of riotous mob attacks, stone-hurling racists incited by the real estate interests tried by violence for five nights to drive a Negro family from Chicago's oldest public housing project, the 26-acre Trumbull Park development.

Courageously refusing to budge in the face of this terrorism, postal clerk Donald Howard, his wife and two children have had to live under heavy police guard since the attacks began on Aug. 6, shortly after the Howards moved into the project.

The attacks were invited by the under-cover Jim Crow policy of the public housing authorities.

"We had no idea there were no other Negroes here when we moved in," said Mrs. Howard. "The Chicago Housing Authority has a policy of non-discrimination, but we have learned since this trouble started that this project and three others have never taken Negro tenants."

Very few of the white tenants of the project were among the hoodlums trying to force the Howards out. Four of those arrested, however, were from the project and a Chicago Housing

Authority spokesman said their conduct was a violation of their leases and eviction action is contemplated for anyone implicated in the riots.

### VIOLENCE BEGINS

The first violence occurred on Thursday evening, Aug. 6, when a crowd of about 30 gathered menacingly and a brick was thrown through the Howard living room window. Police dispersed the crowd, but the following night a larger one gathered. Stones and bricks were thrown through the door and windows of the Howard residence. Early Saturday morning two sulphur candles were tossed into the family's living room.

By Sunday night a souped-up crowd of from 500 to 2,000 mobilized and on Monday night an estimated 3,000 were on hand trying to deprive the Negro family of their rights.

A large contingent of police barricaded off an area of two blocks to keep the screaming race-haters from the project. The frustrated mob then moved to a nearby busy street intersection and stoned Negroes in passing cars and in taverns. Five steel

workers driving home from work were injured by flying glass.

### "HARD TO UNDERSTAND"

"We are going to stay here and fight it out," said Mrs. Howard. "But it is hard to understand. When they're taking men into the Army, they don't worry about color, but when you try to find a decent place to live it's a different matter."

Administrator Roy Wilkins of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said: "This Chicago housing riot is quite a welcome home party for released Negro prisoners in Korea, some of whom must be wondering why they have been shooting Communists in far away Asia all these months."

Preliminary figures for U. S. casualties in the Korean war are up to 142,277. This is the fourth bloodiest year in the history of the country as far as U.S. losses are concerned. Casualties inflicted by the horror weapons on the Korean people are far greater. The Defense Department said the list includes 25,604 dead and 103,492 wounded.

## Wall St. Takes Gloomy View of Repercussions On Global War Plans

By Murry Weiss

AUG. 20 — The general strike of the French workers, now entering its third week, is at this writing more powerful than ever. The situation has sharpened to the critical point. An all-out showdown between French labor and capital is inevitable. And in the contest the workers are infinitely more powerful than the capitalists.

The scope and duration of the movement is unprecedented in the rich class-struggle history of France. The Wall Street-backed Laniel government, whose oppressive economic decrees touched off the struggle, attempted to halt the strike throughout the week by requisitioning (drafting) the strikers in government-owned industry. This device failed miserably.

Next the millionaire premier attempted to negotiate with the non-Stalinist unions; but the overwhelming pressure of the workers precluded any deal that did not meet their basic demands.

With a "courage" born of the stiff pressure from American capitalism to deal "firmly" with the strike, Laniel burned all bridges behind the isolated and tottering all-capitalist government and issued an arrogant ultimatum to the workers: Go back to work! "There will be no more talks with those who do not resume work today. There will be nothing more left but a vast national effort directed toward the need of assuring at all costs the country's essential services."

### TROOPS MOVED

This strike-breaking declaration, issued on Tuesday, Aug. 18, was backed by the movement of troops into Paris. The N. Y. Times has nodded approval. The troops are necessary "both to break the strikes and to prevent them from erupting into violence."

The workers responded to this bluster and the threatening gestures of violence by intensifying

and broadening their strike. Union and Socialist leaders were quoted as regarding Laniel's ultimatum "a veritable declaration of war." The united front of the three labor federations, instead of being shattered, was further consolidated by Laniel's ultimatum.

The number of strikers had reached 4,000,000 by Aug. 13. How many were out at the beginning of this week was hard to determine because of the intervening vacation period. All indications are that the strike is spreading to private industry and has generally gained momentum since Laniel's ultimatum.

### POLITICAL DEMANDS

The demands of the workers are essentially political in character. Two weeks ago word got out that the Laniel government was using its special powers, voted by the last session of the National Assembly, to prepare economic decrees that cut the number of workers in government-owned enterprises, and lengthened the time of service by two years before eligibility for pensions. This was the straw that broke the back of the workers' patience.

The French workers have been suffering from the ravages of inflation, exorbitant and discriminating taxation, and other scourges arising from the sickness and debility of decaying French capitalism.

The take-home pay of an average metal worker of Paris with a family of three is \$30 a (Continued on page 2)

## Oil Imperialists Back Royalist Coup in Iran

Wall Street and the Eisenhower administration are holding their breath in the hope that the royalist military coup in Teheran which has returned the exiled Shah of Iran to power and deposed Premier Mossadegh will prove lasting.

Mossadegh's mass popularity rests upon the expropriation of the British-American imperialist oil holdings two years ago. Since that time Wall Street and London have been unable to regain control.

Last week the attempt of the Shah to remove Mossadegh was thwarted. The Shah fled the country on Sunday, Aug. 16. On Monday 100,000 workers demonstrated against the royalists in the streets of Teheran. They cut down statues of the Shah and his father. They displayed a bitterly anti-royalist mass sentiment.

On Wednesday the royalist power grab took place when a section of the army, heavily infested with royalist elements, attacked Government buildings and Mossadegh's residence. The army is a tightly knit highly specialized apparatus for maintaining military control over the masses. A pitched battle occurred in the streets in which American-made Sherman tanks were used. The pro-Shah forces in the army succeeded in seizing control — at least temporarily.

News dispatches indicate that the royalists are moving against the workers. A theatre frequented by members of the powerful Stalinist-controlled Tudeh party was burned down.

The Stalinists, who were outlawed under Mossadegh, have given indications of friendliness

to him. The present possibility of a reactionary royalist victory, and its consequences in working class victims, was laid by the policy of Stalinism in Iran. The Stalinists have deliberately refrained from utilizing the mass of the workers to organize a revolution that could have cleansed the country of monarchist-feudal elements. This would have made possible an end to the appalling poverty of the exploited workers and peasants.

The reaction of Wall Street and London to the first news of the royalist coup was cautious. In London stocks of the expropriated oil companies soared in anticipation of the early return of the properties to the British capitalists.

However the American State Department has indicated its awareness that the issue in Iran is not settled. They fear the entrance of the working masses into the arena of struggle. This would upset the tenuous counter-revolutionary achievement of the royalist military clique.

A year ago a similar attempt to depose Mossadegh resulted in mass intervention by the workers, preventing installing an Anglo-American puppet regime. The present coup may well be the signal for civil war. This would mean a fight to the finish between the workers and the peasants on the one side, and the landlord-capitalist-royalist forces on the other.

## Labor Next Target of Witch Hunt

By Art Preis

Since the Republican victory last November, organized labor has faced greater necessity than ever of taking effective measures to combat the aggressive anti-labor forces. The danger facing organized labor from political reaction is emphasized anew by the recent announcement that the Senate Internal Security subcommittee has picked the labor unions as the next target for a McCarthyite-type witch-hunting "investigation." This is precisely the development about which The Militant warned when McCarthy in the Senate and Velde in the House dared to turn their inquisitions on the liberal Protestant clergy. Labor is next.

Fear of new and deadlier blows against labor on the economic and political fronts has been the principal stimulus to sentiments among the organized workers for unity of the labor unions. The average worker wants to see the AFL and CIO welded together in order to wage a bigger and more powerful fight against the threats to labor's conditions and rights represented by the growing capitalist reaction.

A major obstacle to this aspiration remains the narrow organizational interests of the individual union bureaucrats whose tendency is to view every issue, however vital, through the lens of their own positions, dues and emoluments. We have an illustration of this type of antipathy to labor unity in William L. Hutcheson, President Emeritus of the 800,000-member United Brotherhood of Carpenters, who resigned as an AFL Executive Council vice president and pulled his organization out of the AFL when the council approved a no-raiding agreement between the AFL and CIO.

In general, the top AFL and CIO officials have gone along with the wide-spread unity sentiment and have even projected organic unity as the answer to labor's major problems. At the same time, they have continued to seek a way out for labor through futile attempts to achieve collaboration with the Republican administration.

The same AFL council meeting that approved the no-raiding agreement was singularly silent on the anti-labor role of Eisenhower. In particular, the council

appeared to accept the assurances of Labor Secretary Martin Durkin, former Plumbers Union head, that Eisenhower is preparing amendments to the Taft-Hartley Law "favorable to labor." It was significant that Eisenhower waited until after Congress had adjourned, and there was no time for labor to press it for action, to leak a story to the effect that he had submitted T-H amendments, later countered by a second leak that they were withheld because of violent opposition of the most reactionary Republicans.

Durkin himself has gone to the extent of a public attack on his successor in the Plumbers Union, acting general president Peter J. Schoemann, for stating in the union's journal that the Administration is trying "to steal from the American people what is rightfully theirs" in the matters of offshore oil reserves, higher interest rates and disposal of atomic installations to private interests. On Taft-Hartley, Durkin even claimed that Eisenhower "has strictly adhered to his pledge to make these amendments and he is now actively engaged in preparing them."

Such views, of course, minimize the danger of political reaction and raise anew the illusion that perhaps some way out can be found by labor through the old bankrupt policy of dependence on political collaboration and deals with the capitalist parties and administrations. They tend to weaken the impulsion toward labor unity.

That is not to say that AFL-CIO unity in and of itself will turn back political reaction. The moves toward unity merely reflect an awareness of the serious political menace to labor's rights and organized existence. But organic unity, to deal effectively with this problem, must be powered with a correct political program.

Independent labor political action — the launching of labor's own party — would provide a united labor movement with the political weapon it needs to deal the most devastating kind of blow to capitalist reaction and the anti-labor forces. Only through an independent class party can labor defend itself, safeguard its organized existence and win the gains it aspires to.

Letters to a Stalinist
ROLE OF PROVOCATEURS
IN E. GERMAN UPRISING

Dear Phil,
In your last letter you cite Paul Sweezy and Leo Huberman of the Monthly Review to reinforce your arguments on East Germany. You refer to the August issue of this magazine which says, "What happened in Berlin thus seems clear enough: the Western cold warriors succeeded in turning perfectly genuine workers' protest demonstrations into a pitched battle against the East German regime and the Soviet occupation authorities."

You claim that this opinion powerfully substantiates the Stalinist line because Sweezy and Huberman are "independent socialists" and have at times criticized the Kremlin.

Believe it or not, Phil, I was waiting for you to pick up the arguments of the Monthly Review, particularly since I know you have a subscription to the magazine. I was just getting ready to write an article on their "analysis" of East Germany because I believe they are masquerading as "independent socialists" and thereby are deceiving people who consider direct Kremlin spokesmen unreliable.

The first thing to check is just how independent this source is. The July 10 issue of the official Stalinist newspaper of the Cominform, For a Lasting Peace, etc. says "Way back in May this year the American magazine Monthly Review pointed out that individuals like Chiang Kai-shek, Syngman Rhee, Adenauer and John Foster Dulles would surely have a go at organizing 'super-provocations.' The Berlin venture was precisely one of these 'super-provocations.'" In its August issue the Monthly Review proudly quotes its May comment and draws the same conclusion — the East German general strike was an imperialist-engineered "super-provocation."

Last March, the Monthly Review whitewashed the infamous Moscow Frame-up Trials with a "pattern of explanation." This August they whitewash the counter-revolutionary role of Stalinism in the East German events with a "pattern of causation." I cannot agree that such a source is either independent or socialist.

The difference between Sweezy-Huberman and the Daily Worker consists in this: The Daily Worker gives a crude reproduction of the lies and slanders of the Kremlin, the Monthly Review gives a slick apology for these crudities and translates the harsh language of Stalinist crimes and frame-ups into a palatable, soothing and queasy terminology. Example: The purges of the top echelons of the Stalinist parties in East Europe accompanied by fantastic charges of treason and spying are called by Sweezy-Huberman "more or less extensive personnel shake-ups."

Let's consider the pivotal point of the Monthly Review's "pattern of explanation" of the East German events. I will reconstruct carefully: The East German workers engaged in "perfectly genuine workers' protest demonstrations." But Western-financed provocateurs took over these demonstrations and turned them into a pro-capitalist attack on the regime of East Germany and the Soviet Union. The purpose of this giant provocation, according to the Monthly Review, was to strengthen the move to rearm West Germany, align it with the European Defense Community and halt the Soviet peace offensive.

What proof do Sweezy-Huberman advance to support this "pattern"? None at all. As a matter of fact, the true character of the East German workers' movement is so obvious that the facts about it even break into their article. They say: "For one thing, it is quite clear that if Washington or Bonn hoped that the East Berlin affair would play into the hands of their policy of putting the arming of West Germany ahead of German unification, they badly miscalculated." How did they miscalculate? Sweezy-Huberman say "all reports agree that the political content of the June 16-17 demonstrations, far from being pro-United States or pro-Adenauer, centered entirely on unification and free elections. . . The net result of the East Berlin affair. . . has been to make German unification a hotter issue than ever."

Thus, according to Sweezy-Huberman themselves, the workers' demonstrations had an anti-capitalist character despite the aims and activities of the provocateurs. They "centered entirely on unification and free elections." They were "far from being pro-United States or pro-Adenauer."

What remains then of the Sweezy-Huberman contention that the East German workers were successfully "taken over" by provocateurs from the West? Perhaps they will argue that this was prevented by the actions of the Stalinist regime? But this would be an absurd contradiction. It was the movement of the workers on June 16-17 that they admit had an anti-capitalist character. All the Stalinist regime did was try to suppress that movement. All that remains of the sick Sweezy-Huberman "pattern of explanation" is the bald assertion of the Stalinist lie-factory: because the Western capitalists sent provocateurs into East Berlin (which is true) and because they tried to make capital out of the workers' uprising (which is true), therefore the East German struggle against the Stalinist bureaucracy is a venture of capitalist provocateurs (which is a lie).

The role of the provocateurs as the "causation" of the uprising is crushingly disproved by two facts. First, the East Berlin workers retained fully their independence from the provocateurs and their slogans, as the Monthly Review admits. Second, the East Berlin uprising of June 17 showed its deep roots in the plight and political mood of the working class by spreading rapidly to every industrial center of East Germany, turning into a general strike.

— Murry Weiss

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Are 50,000,000 Doomed in U. S. by H-Bomb?

By Joseph Hansen (First of a series.)

Malenkov's announcement Aug 8 that "the United States does not have a monopoly of the hydrogen bomb" raises once again the question of Wall Street's projected time table for World War III. This question is of intense interest to the generals, capitalist politicians and their billionaire backers. In the opposing class camp, the politically conscious vanguard is even more concerned about the question. It happens to be one of the most momentous that has ever faced mankind.

Brien McMahon, chairman of the Joint Congressional Commission on Atomic Energy, observed before his death that a few H-Bombs carried to Soviet cities would incinerate around 16 million people; but the same number dropped on American cities would mean about 50 million casualties.

In addition to 50 million struck down, the inventory of the catastrophe to America would have to list the smashing of the world's mightiest industrial complex.

To think that America can somehow escape such fearful consequences in the projected war between continents is famous. The well-known columnist Joseph Alsop revealed July 26 that "evidence is now available" indicating the Soviet Union "has started series production of a six-engine turbo-prop bomber with a round-trip range of ap-

proximately 5,000 miles." The bomber is more modern than the B-36. This means that every "American target will be within round-trip range of the Soviet advanced bases in Kamchatka and on the Arctic fringe." He adds that American defenses against such long-range bombers loaded with atom or hydrogen bombs are not as effective as Soviet defenses.

If nothing worse happened, it is clear that the opening day of World War III might well go down in history as the opening day of a new barbarism for America.

But even worse might happen. Leading atomic scientists warned us some years ago that if the H-Bomb were developed, it would then be technically feasible to include certain materials, which, on dissipating in the atmosphere after the explosion and diffusing from pole to pole, would destroy all life — at least life in its higher forms.

LESSON OF HISTORY

I am not among those who hopefully believe that such horrors are beyond the capacity of human nature and that not even a capitalist ruler could bring himself to push the button that would entail such results. A class facing loss of its ruling position is capable of anything. That is the lesson of history.

Nothing in Hitler's course, for example, gives us much cause to consider that the lesson has been outmoded. The McCarthy type and the billionaire rulers that

foster the McCarthy type are not essentially different in outlook from Hitler and his sponsors. Faced with the continued rise of revolutionary forces intent on replacing capitalism by a better economic system, these paranoiacs may decide that no matter what the risks, the war they have blue-printed offers them the only out.

How can they be stopped? How can their will be paralyzed? How can the power of deciding America's fate be taken from them? The answers to these questions hinge upon the capacity of the American working class to take the road of political action without much delay and build a mass revolutionary socialist party. It hinges upon what each one of us, particularly the political vanguard, does toward furthering this development. Truly, the American workers might say that never before have such terrible problems and fateful decisions

rested with an oppressed class in the hour when they were called on to carry society forward to a higher stage.

Is it still possible for the American working class to stay the suicidal plunge into another world conflict? I think so. First of all, no automatic process is at work that will push the American capitalists into war, no matter what the forces arrayed against them, at a pre-determined date.

DATES POSTPONED

It has been clear since shortly after the close of World War II that the tempo of preparations for another holocaust is far swifter than was the case after World War I. In 1945-46 Washington set its first bracket for possible war as early as 1949-50. But the world war did not break out in that period although at times it was perilously close, especially with the outbreak of

hostilities in Korea. Before the deadline was reached, the time table was changed, first to around 1952, then as 1952 neared, to 1954. Now it has been postponed again, this time indefinitely, if we are to believe Eisenhower.

The several postponements demonstrate in themselves that Wall Street's date for the fatal plunge is not rigidly fixed. A certain flexibility has been maintained. The reasons for this are clear enough. The Wall Street masters of destiny would prefer to win their desperate gamble. Consequently, they estimate world political forces, calculate the probable consequences of policies, take into account new developments — many of them surprising and unforeseen to them — and have shown that they are capable of making considerable tactical adjustments.

They continue to view war as

inevitable, of course; and this determines their strategic course. But they also consider that the initiative and therefore the timing rests in their hands. This, they feel, gives them a measure of control. Through that control they hope to lower the risks and strengthen the possibilities of coming out on top.

However, from another point of view, this flexibility amounts to hesitation, indecisiveness and even procrastination. Tactical adaptation at a certain point affects the strategic aim, can even undermine it and prove to be the Achilles heel of the war plotters. With each postponement the question arises — has not the strategic moment been missed? Have not the odds risen so high that war means a more swift and certain doom than temporization?

(Next week: Why they had to postpone the dates.)

Millions of Strikers Defy Laniel Ultimatum

(Continued from page 1)

This includes government bonuses for children. The N. Y. Times admits that during the last "two years inflation has been whittling down even that little purchasing power. That is why the French workers started their strike against a measure which would further cut their standards, and went on to raise the demand for a general wage increase."

But the French workers have done more than present a number of reasonable and modest demands to the capitalist government. The whole course of their action demonstrates that they are fed up with whole political structure, with the rule of Big Business, with the American-backed war in Indo-China which is draining their resources, and with the passivity of their official organizations.

The French workers launched the most vigorous protest against the continuance of the capitalist regime. Their action has shifted the balance of class forces in the world to the further disadvantage of international capitalism. The N. Y. Times admits editorially that there is "a complete deadlock between the Government and the disaffected workers that could have serious repercussions — on France, on Europe and on the whole North Atlantic community."

GLOOMY VIEW

The Aug. 21 U.S. News and World Report takes a most gloomy view: "Things are going badly for the U.S. in Europe. . . France is perilously close to chaos. . . The United States is in danger of being pushed out of Europe. . . Soviet Russia hardly has to lift a finger. . . It's not a revolution in France — not yet, anyway. . . This isn't the way the U.S. planned it. But it's the way things are going."

These are the repercussions of the French general strike in the consciousness of the U.S. capitalists. In France the workers face a cornered capitalist class, which is fighting desperately for survival.

All commentators and observers agree that the Laniel government doesn't have much chance. What will replace it? Another Laniel? This is excluded by the tumultuous re-entry of the workers on the political scene. The special session of the Assembly which the workers demanded from the beginning of the struggle now appears assured. This will be the arena for the political showdown. But it will be an arena where the shadows of the real class forces will enact the drama that is being written in the strike gatherings and party meetings of the working class.

NEW COALITION GOVT.?

There is talk of a new government on the model of the Popular Front days prior to World War II and shortly after the war. This would be a government of coalition between the parties of the workers and the parties of capitalism. Can France return to this type of regime granting that the workers' officials, treacherous to the core, will be able to sell this idea to the workers?

Even such a government, which is the only conceivable way the French capitalist system could gain a stay of sentence, would be a bitter pill for Washington to swallow. With the Socialist and Communist parties in the government the advantage of putting a firm base under the feeble rule of capitalism through the mechanism of the Socialist and Stalinist labor bureaucracy would be offset by the inevitable slow-down of the cold war. It couldn't conceivably be undertaken without imposing the need for a broader international understanding between Washington and the

Kremlin. But the over-all need of Wall Street is war — not deals. Thus the dilemma.

Within France the dilemma is not less acute. The French capitalists under the whip of Washington have forced the situation to a crisis in order to deal with the working class and its organizations once and for all. Now at the moment of crisis they are whipped before they start. The possibility that in their desperation they will try to resort to a new coalition is by no means excluded.

NO SOLUTION

For the highly class-conscious French workers the road of a coalition government with the capitalists means a return to all the political conditions that gave rise to the present situation.

Such a government would be even more unstable than the one that was set up at the end of

World War II. First, Wall Street favors a totalitarian-type regime to secure France as a key in its projected war on the Soviet Union. Secondly, such a government would have no more capacity than the present one to grant the major concessions needed by the workers. Thirdly, the crisis arising from colonial revolt and a disintegrating empire would continue its explosive pressure on the new coalition regime.

The French workers want and need an end to the capitalist system. The moment is ripe for the slogan of a Workers and Farmers Government of the Socialist and Communist parties. This slogan has been consistently advanced by the French Trotskyists.

SITUATION FAVORABLE

Nothing in the objective situation, nor in the sentiment of the workers stands in the way of

such a solution to the crisis. In fact, the international situation is exceptionally favorable in view of the spread of anti-capitalist revolution.

With the victory of the French workers — which nothing but the treachery of the Stalinists and Social Democrats can temporarily prevent — one of the foundation stones of world capitalism would be knocked out.

This would open a completely new chapter in the struggle against another world war. A general strike leading to the installation of workers power in France would raise the working class of the whole world to its feet. A new example would stand before them even more inspiring and far-reaching than the victory of the Russian workers in 1917. All power, we say, to the audacious and determined workers of France.

French Mail Clerks Out Too



These striking postal workers in Paris rest on top of a mountain of unsorted, undelivered mail. They have joined in the general strike of four million workers throughout France against the "economy" measures of the Laniel government which hit at the already low living standards.

"SUBVERSIVE" RULING FLOUTED BY BROWNELL

(Continued from page 1)

neighbors, driven from their jobs, framed up and imprisoned for what they thought or for associating with other victims of the witch hunt. So brutal is the persecution that some have been driven to suicide.

Victimized organizations and individuals have resorted to court actions in an attempt to defend themselves against these unconstitutional government attacks. One of these cases led two years ago to a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that the Attorney General had flagrantly exceeded his authority in establishing the "subversive" list.

COURT RULING

According to the court, no organization should be designated "subversive" before it has been (1) informed of the evidence on which the designation rests, (2) granted an administrative hearing, and (3) allowed to present evidence on its own behalf.

The procedure indicated by the court is being ignored by the Department of Justice, under Eisenhower, just as it was under Truman. The only difference is that the Eisenhower administration has rigged up a scheme to create the false impression that they are offering their victims a hearing.

Last April Eisenhower revoked the Truman "loyalty" order and issued his own "security" order which includes the fake directive on hearings. The anti-democratic character of Eisenhower's order is revealed by the fact that he "cleared it with McCarthy," the nation's No. 1 witch hunter. Even more revealing is the application of the order by Attorney General Brownell.

192 organizations that had been designated "subversive" by the Truman administration. To this list he added 62 new groups, including many whose only purpose and function was to defend victims of the witch hunt.

Only after he had smeared these organizations publicly did Brownell present a tricky set of rules of procedure for filing a "notice of contest" as the preliminary to a demand for a hearing. Under these rules he has arbitrarily rejected the SWP protest.

Even if a victimized organization should break through the barbed wire of "notice of contest" rules, the so-called "hearing" under Brownell's regulations would be a kangaroo proceeding without any semblance of the fairness stipulated by the Supreme Court.

These facts prove that organizations marked down for attack through the "subversive" list will be framed up and publicly smeared under Eisenhower just as they were under Truman.

SWP FIGHT

The Socialist Workers Party has waged a consistent fight against the Truman political blacklist. Nationally celebrated is the challenge to the "subversive" list by James Kutcher, a legless war veteran. Fired from his government job solely because of his membership in the SWP, Kutcher has been fighting the "loyalty" purge for five years and will take his eleventh appeal into the federal courts this September.

The SWP will now fight with the same persistence and determination against the Eisenhower attack on democratic rights. We will continue to defend all victims of the witch hunt, regardless of political differences we may have with them. We will do so because the SWP believes that in the realm of democratic rights there should be full application of the time-honored labor slogan, "An injury to one is an injury to all."

Republic Steel Firings Seen Threat to Union

By Jack Wilson

YOUNGSTOWN, Aug. 16 — The steel corporations in this district have launched an attack on the CIO Steelworkers by wholesale firing of members and officers of local unions. This attack reached its peak when Republic Steel fired 13 union officers and members, including the local's president. This followed similar discharges of 11 union officials and members at the Valley Mould and Iron Company at Hubbard and 23 dismissals at the Mullins Manufacturing Company in nearby Warren.

Anti-union articles in the daily Youngstown Vindicator, a spokesman for the steel companies, preceded and accompanied these dismissals. Last June 21 the Vindicator issued a tirade against the union for "wild cat" and slow-down strikes. The Ohio Works Organizer, paper of Local 1330 at U.S. Steel's Ohio Works plant, warned that this "vicious barrage . . . forecasts further attacks by the employers in this district."

On Aug. 11, three days after Republic Steel fired 13 millwrights work stoppage, the Vindicator, in a front page editorial, indicated the steel trust's real intentions by announcing that "the steel firms are rapidly running out of patience with the steel union" and are moving to take "determined measures" against work stoppages and slowdowns.

The Ohio Works Local 1330 answered this challenge with a statement pledging support to the victimized workers. On Aug. 13, the presidents of the basic steel and large fabricating locals declared that "the arbitrary discharge of local union officers and members . . . cannot be tolerated" and pledged the full resources of their locals to fight for reinstatement of those fired.

At this writing, the Mullins workers appear to be getting back to work; nine out of 12 at Valley Mould have been reinstated, with three on the suspended list; and Republic Steel has rehired three of the 13. Negotiations are going on to get them all back.

PRESS FOR REHIRING

The firings occurred at Republic when nearly 4,000 workers were on strike. A meeting was called that day and the workers voted to return to work until Aug. 18, when they would decide on the next step if the men were not rehired. Meanwhile, Republic seems to be readying for a showdown, reportedly bringing several carloads of refrigerated food into the mill and instructing foremen to be on hand in the mill on Aug. 18.

The district union leadership, although not publicly supporting those fired, has issued a statement about the presidents of the locals supporting them. But it is not openly taking the lead to call on the district's workers to assist the fired men. Republic Local 1331 leaders seem to be paralyzed. This leadership several months ago under pressure of the companies gave a public "no-strike" pledge. They reiterated this notorious pledge after the firings. The top leaders in Pittsburgh have kept quiet.

For the last year there have been hundreds of work stoppages in this area, traditionally one of the most militant in the country, over crew-cutting, crossing-over on jobs, unsafe practices, incentive plans, etc. But the struggles have been mostly over the incentive plans. The international union agreed to incentives and the corporations have been installing them piecemeal. Incentive plans are speedup schemes and the workers have resisted the worst of them. Had the leadership fought for really "substantial" wage increases instead of agreeing to incentives which permit the company to divide the workers, the whole union could have been mobilized for an effective battle.

RESIST ATTACKS

Even against these odds, the Youngstown workers continue to resist the attacks on their conditions. Up to now, it has not been possible for the official leadership to openly sabotage these struggles. Several years ago, the steelworkers here elected a rank and filer to the district director's job, something that has not happened in other districts. Under these circumstances the workers have waged many battles without the companies being able to "discipline" them. But because of the changed political climate in Washington since the elections, the corporations evidently feel the time may be right for them to take "determined measures" against labor here.

Youngstown is a high-cost area and the companies have spent relatively nothing for new plants and equipment here. The growing attacks on the union, it was observed by the July 17 Ohio Works Organizer, come "at a time when the steel market is showing indications of slackening and they are preparing now so that when conditions become more favorable to them (corporations), they can start a more aggressive drive to weaken and eventually destroy the organized labor movement."

Recent slowing down of auto sales and auto cutbacks, and

Trotsky Memorial Meetings

New York: MURRY WEISS, staff writer for The Militant, will speak on "Capitalism and Stalinism Face Their Doom" — The French General Strike, East German Uprising and the Kremlin Purge. DAVID L. WEISS, SWP candidate for Mayor will also speak. Wed., Aug. 26, 8 p.m. at Adelphi Hall, 74 Fifth Ave. (Nr. 14th St.)

Chicago: BERT DECK will speak on "The East German Uprising." Fri., Aug. 28, 8:30 p.m. at 734 So. Wabash Ave.

San Francisco: FRANK BARBARIA will speak on "The German Workers' Uprising — Beginning of End for Stalinism." Sat., Aug. 29, 8 p.m. at 2337 Mission St.

Subscriptions: \$3 per year; \$1.50 for 6 months. Foreign: \$4.50 per year; \$2.25 for 6 months. Canadian: \$3.50 per year; \$1.75 for 6 months. Single copies: 5 or more copies 6c each in U.S., 7c each in foreign countries.

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### Should Physicists Be Caged?

At the closing session of the first international conference on atomic energy held in Oslo, Norway, more than 100 nuclear scientists voted unanimously in favor of establishing an international nuclear energy association that would pool world knowledge about atomic research. They did this in the interest of developing the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

The scientists knew that this motion would not meet with favor from official circles in the United States. In fact they ruled America out as a possible meeting place for their conference next year. They were aware that many of them would be barred by the immigration authorities.

It is a common experience, they said, to be denied a visa to the U.S. because American consuls in Europe "seem to regard any European atomic scientist applying for a visa as a potential spy."

This ignorant, bigoted consular attitude is to be expected from Washington office-holders as it is apparently one of the tests used first by the Democrats and now the Republicans to determine fitness for posts.

Yet the attitude is not confined to government circles. The novelist Louis Bromfield went even further in a recent issue of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*. He called physicists like Albert Einstein "subhuman." The physicist is "a kind of 'hant' or zombie detached from the rest of us..." Bromfield held that it might be well to "shut all physicists up in cages" and take the "mystical algebraical formulae" they produce and "consign the whole thing to the kitchen incinerator."

Bromfield blames the nuclear scientists for the atom bomb and wants to take vengeance on them.

This attitude toward the physicists is not shared by the American people. The proof is a subsequent issue of the *Plain Dealer* in which the readers went after Bromfield with baseball bats.

Virtually all pointed to the progress made possible by scientists — the telescope, the microscope, the X-ray, the electric motor, steam and gasoline engines, pumps, water and sanitary systems, trucks, railroad trains, the airplane, radio, TV, the refrigerator, surgery, medicine, etc., etc. One reader said Bromfield's article was "part of a campaign to oppress the scientist by restricting his researches" and that surely great writers should "utilize their talents to co-ordinate the efforts of the people in fashioning a better world."

Another gave it to Bromfield right between the eyes: "Of course; there are some radicals who think it would be more to the point to catch up on some of the things we have left undone. Such people feel that physicists are not... ahead of us and ahead of themselves, but that society has fallen astern of science and mathematics."

Reading that response to the Dark Age outlook of Bromfield and his kind renewed our confidence in the American people. They appreciate what great promise science holds. And they are beginning to understand that it's not the physicist who's to blame but an out-moded social system that perverts his science to evil and reactionary ends.

### Malenkov Was Right on One Point

Malenkov in his recent speech reaffirmed the need and possibility of the "peaceful co-existence" of the USSR with the capitalist world. He vowed there was not a single issue in dispute with Washington that could not be settled by agreement. He denied that the Kremlin was engaging here in any tactical or diplomatic maneuvers. It was the general line of Moscow's foreign policy, he said.

In disclaiming any war plans, Malenkov spoke the truth for a change. The Soviet economic system is the product of the 1917 Russian Revolution and not of the bureaucracy's rule; and there is nothing in Soviet economy that drives it inexorably to war as is the case with capitalist economy, with its need to export capital, its need for new outlets for goods and its need of raw materials.

The bureaucracy is not plagued by huge accumulations of capital which clamor for export, as in the U.S. On the contrary, the planned Soviet economy requires ever greater funds annually for expansion. If one adds the needs of China and of the East European countries, it would be correct to say that the Soviet bloc suffers from an acute scarcity of capital funds — and not from a glut as does U.S. imperialism.

For Soviet economy, markets do not constitute the same problem as for capitalism. Instead of the need for foreign outlets, there arises the mounting necessity of meeting shortages and a growing demand at home. Soviet domestic needs more than absorb the output of heavy industry, let alone that of the sadly

lagging light industry. If to this is added China's needs and those of the East European satellites, then the problem is clearly that of meeting scarcities rather than that of seeking new outlets for gluts.

As for raw materials, the Soviet bloc encompasses one-third of the land areas of the globe, its richest and least developed storehouse of natural wealth. To talk of a dearth in this connection is the sheerest nonsense.

The Kremlin bureaucracy is a parasitic formation, narrow-minded and conservative through and through. The Chinese revolution, which tore the heart of Asia and its 500 million people from the capitalist orbit, was certainly none of the Kremlin's doing. The Soviet expansion into Eastern Europe came under the pressure of Hitler's attack and Washington's "cold war" and not from any initiative on the Kremlin's part. The Kremlin rulers are more than satisfied with the existing relation of world forces. They fear another war above all because of the revolutionary consequences it entails. It means their doom as well as the doom of world capitalism.

No, the Kremlin does not lie when it proclaims its eagerness for peace. The lie consists in spreading pacifist illusions that capitalism, which still represents the dominant economic force in the world today, is willing or able to live in peace, with one-third of the globe torn out of its orbit. These illusions only help pave the way for war. Above all because they disorient and demoralize the workers' struggle for socialism, the only alternative to World War III.

### Japanese Labor Answers Dulles

American newspapers which have been making capital out of the workers resistance against the Stalinist regime in East Germany have deliberately played down or buried the highly important news about the strike of 100,000 workers at U.S. military bases in Japan.

This 48-hour general strike on all U.S. installations in Japan was initiated on Aug. 12 with huge militant mass demonstrations. The walkout was waged against what the strikers called a "non-collective bargaining" contract, in violation of Japan's labor law, which the U.S. brass tried to impose on the occupation-ruled workers.

The strike was called by the right-wing Security Forces Workers Union. Nevertheless, reports an abbreviated United Press dispatch, the strikers "waved red flags" and "formed picket lines 10 and 20 deep around the entrances of the major base installations." The strike was ended, the UP also reported, when "U.S. officials expressed a desire to abide by Japan labor laws and may sign a new pact."

This strike is significant in two major respects. (1) It puts a spotlight on the role of

American imperialism as an exporter not of "liberation" but of anti-labor Taft-Hartleyism. (2) It indicates the real attitude of the people toward the U.S. occupation.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles had been in Japan recently to try to speed up the Japanese government's own military preparations and rearmament. He complained that the Japanese were failing to take a more active part in war preparations, although the Japanese Constitution specifically prohibits rearming. Three days after his departure, the strike at U.S. bases indicated the temper of the workers and their attitude toward their military conquerors.

The war plans of Wall Street include the resurrection of Japan as a military power, under U.S. control, to provide the main assault force and military base for the reconquest of China and a drive into Siberia as part of a general anti-Soviet assault.

These plans are not going according to schedule — primarily because of the opposition and resistance of the organized Japanese workers to the U.S. occupation of Japan. The Japanese masses do not want to become bomb and cannon fodder in another invasion of China, they want to be free to determine their own fate and set up the kind of government they feel they need.

American labor has the duty to give all-out support to our Japanese brothers who are fighting Taft-Hartleyism brought to Japan with U.S. bayonets. They are battling the same enemy as the American workers. It is our responsibility to demand an end to the U.S. military occupation and full freedom for Japanese labor to seek its own emancipation.

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# 'Chimp-O-Mat' Economy and Ape Nature

By Reba Aubrey

ANIMAL IQ — The Human Side of Animals. By Vance Packard. The Dial Press, New York N. Y. 192 pp. \$2.50.

Nowadays there are so many books on the market about the animal side of humans that I couldn't resist this one about the human side of animals.

I was most interested in the sociable, easy-going, cooperative chimpanzees. Their strongly marked trait of sympathy is especially attractive. A sick one "is waited upon with great anxiety and tenderness by its friends, who will even sacrifice their favorite dainties in order to offer them to their sick comrade."

They will extend sympathy to their cousins, homo sapiens. For instance, a scientist pulled a chair up before a cage containing an ape mother and infant. The mother clung to her infant tightly, glaring suspiciously at the strange figure in clothes. As the scientist picked up his chair to move closer to the cage, he got a large splinter in his finger and naturally for a moment his attention shifted away from the apes. "Suddenly he noticed that the mother had moved over closer and was staring sympathetically at his hand. The scientist held it out to her. She clutched it, dipped his finger into her mouth, then set her thumbnail under the splinter and 'expertly' flipped it out."

Chimpanzees like to help each other too. Here is a typical experiment: A box of food was placed outside a chimp's cage — just out of reach, with a rope attached. He tugged on the rope but couldn't budge the box. He signaled a second chimp in the cage, persuaded him to come over and give a hand. "The two of them together, tugging in unison, were able to pull the food within reach."

By now the experiment had already revealed some remarkable things about ape nature and its capacity to respond to changes in environment. The "once-innocent apes" had become "madly in love with money, and the pleasures that come from its acquisition." Dr. Wolfe wondered if they would work for it. Perhaps he visualized the possibility of "enlarging America's labor force, tapping a vast new source of non-union factory hands."

#### DR. WOLFE'S EXPERIMENT

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Yale Laboratories of Primate Biology. It was an ingenious effort to determine whether the character of a chimpanzee can be changed.

He introduced six chimps to an automatic vendor called the "Chimp-O-Mat," which paid off one grape when a white poker chip was dropped in the slot.

At the beginning of the experiment the chimps showed little interest in poker chips. They considered them inferior playthings. But when they learned that poker chips could bring grapes from the slot machine, "they began treasuring the chips and fighting over them."

In addition to white chips the chimpanzees were given brass slugs. The slugs could be thrust into the slot but nothing ever came out. In short, they were worthless, and the chimps soon comprehended that fact. When a handful of white chips and brass slugs were tossed into the cage, "the three girl-chimps scrambled like human lady gold-diggers for the white chips, but never touched the brass slugs."

#### APE NATURE IS PLASTIC

By now the experiment had already revealed some remarkable things about ape nature and its capacity to respond to changes in environment. The "once-innocent apes" had become "madly in love with money, and the pleasures that come from its acquisition." Dr. Wolfe wondered if they would work for it. Perhaps he visualized the possibility of "enlarging America's labor force, tapping a vast new source of non-union factory hands."

But "no animal had ever worked hard for wages, in the sense that men work for wages. Would the apes do so?"

The scientist pondered the problem and came up with "a fiendishly clever device called the Work Machine. The chimps were shown that when a large handle was lifted, they could reach in and pick up one grape. When they learned the knack of lifting the handle to get the grape, Dr. Wolfe pulled a switcheroo on them. Instead of the grape they would find one poker chip. This chip would still buy them one grape at the Chimp-O-Mat... the money to buy the grape could be obtained in no way except by honest sweat."

#### VOLUNTARY SPEED UP

Although the book doesn't say so, no doubt the apes were kept hungry to give them incentive as they don't seem to think hard labor is much fun. The handle of the Work Machine weighed 18 pounds. That's a lot of weight for a young chimp to hoist. Two of the chimps "worked at such a frenzied pace to acquire chips, when given unlimited access to the Work Machine, that the attendants soon began fearing for their health. They amassed great piles of poker chips, and guarded their piles with a ferocity new to the chimps."

"In one brief 10-minute period," one of the chimps "hoisted that heavy handle 185 times. That was the equivalent of lifting 3,330 pounds! He was in such a rush to earn money that he didn't even pick up each chip as he lifted the handle, but instead brushed it to the floor where a pile was growing."

The experiment could already be considered quite a success. The evidence showed that under the stimulus provided by a certain type of economy, apes will work hard enough to kill themselves and even begin to manifest the traits of a miser.

#### BLUE-CHIP LEVEL

But Dr. Wolfe was still not satisfied. He introduced "a further Man-like refinement to the laboratory's economy. The brass slug was still worthless and the white poker chip was worth one grape. But when a blue chip was inserted into the Chimp-O-Mat, two grapes dropped out. A red chip inserted brought a drink of water. And a yellow chip... a piggy-back ride on the psy-

chologist's shoulders back to his own living quarters."

The chimps "soon showed their awareness that blue chips were more valuable than white chips. The once-treasured white chips were now passed up in favor of the blue (two-grape) chips." They would choose a red chip only when deprived of water until thirsty; a yellow only when a rat was tossed into the cage and they wanted to get up on the psychologist's shoulders in a hurry. (Chimps, like most apes, are terrified at the sight of a rat.)

Now a strange thing happened. Dr. Wolfe had succeeded in changing his hungry apes into model workers. But in this competitive laboratory economy, so different from their native jungle, the highly adaptable chimps began to reveal characteristics that might have won an approving pat on the back from a Rockefeller or Morgan. "The corrupting effects of greed set in. Once-friendly chimps became covetous or suspicious of neighbors. Subtle bullying became rampant." Bula, like a Wall Street banker, "took charge of almost all the chips" and "began lordling it over Bimba."

"When the Chimp-O-Mat was rolled up to their cage, both rushed to spend their money, but Bula shouldered Bimba aside and began spending her huge pile on

the orange slices that were on the menu that day. As Bula sucked one orange slice after another, Bimba whined for a chance to get at the machine. Instead of moving aside, Bula began handing poor Bimba the peels she had sucked dry."

#### STUPENDOUS SUCCESS

The experiment thus ended as a stupendous success. The chimps' sociable, easy-going, cooperative nature was completely altered. They had become greedy, suspicious, bullying, even ferocious practitioners of "free enterprise." In brief, as the book declares, the chimps developed into "shrewd, crafty, greedy capitalists," ready to cut any corner to get "an honest or crooked dollar."

Dr. Wolfe's experiment shows conclusively that it is possible to change the nature of apes. In a bad environment they can degenerate into "capitalists." And what about human nature, which some apes think cannot be changed? In a decent environment of peace and plenty and freedom from fear and worry, it shouldn't be too difficult to change even capitalists — some of them any way — into human beings. At least it'll be an interesting experiment for the scientists to try after socialism does away with "Chimp-O-Mat" economy.

## \$18,000 Fund Scoreboard

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
AKRON	\$ 150	\$ 175	117
Chicago	1,500	1,170	78
Newark	500	386	77
Philadelphia	400	291	73
St. Louis	75	55	73
Buffalo	1,500	1,042	69
Minneapolis-St. Paul	1,200	828	69
Cleveland	350	215	61
Pittsburgh	30	15	50
Flint	250	115	46
Los Angeles	2,500	1,137	45
Boston	550	231	42
New York	4,500	1,491	33
Milwaukee	400	128	32
Seattle	450	143	32
Youngstown	450	142	32
Detroit	1,500	383	25
San Francisco	1,000	251	25
Allentown	60	10	17
Oakland	250	40	16
General	385	87	23
Total through Aug. 17	\$18,000	\$8,335	46

## East German Stalinists Purge "Soft" Officials

By Murry Weiss

Events in East Germany continue to unfold under the sign of a severe political crisis of the Stalinist regime. The workers in the East German factories are still pressing their demands and protests. The official Stalinist trade union newspaper *Tribune* reveals that the movement extends to the skilled workers as well as the mass of the workers in basic industry.

Referring to the workers in the famous Zeiss optical works at Jena the *Tribune* says: "It would have been expected that through their jobs, which call for an exactitude to one-thousandth of a millimeter, they would be more realistic and objective in their thinking. Therefore, it is surprising that some of the workers should thoughtlessly gossip about Fascist demands."

The nature of these "fascist" demands can be gathered from an Aug. 15 speech by Herbert Warneke, head of East Germany's Labor Federation: "We reject demands for new elections of factory union leaders or other union board members when such demands are accompanied by so-called strikes such as took place in the Buna works." (Buna, located at Meresburg, is one of the largest synthetic rubber plants in East Germany.)

Revealing Attitude  
The attitude of the East German Stalinist regime on the fundamental right of the working class to strike is very revealing. On June 30, Max Fechner, who was then Minister of Justice in East Germany, said in an official press interview: "The right to strike is constitutionally guaranteed. Members of strike committees will not be punished for their activities as strike leaders." Fechner's statement gave rise to widespread conjecture, not to speak of illusions, on a "fundamental change" in the policy of Stalinism toward a "new course" — a fundamental change in its attitude toward the democratic rights of the workers.

Events soon demonstrated that the statement of Fechner about the "right to strike" was a thin veil of demagoguery designed to veil the ruthless counter-revolutionary, repressive measures the regime was taking to crush the workers' uprising. His statement expressed the regime's panic and lack of confidence in the face of

seething mass discontent and revolutionary actions. Just one week after his famous declaration, Fechner announced that 50,000 workers had been arrested for participating in the general-strike uprising.

#### DIDN'T SAVE HIM

But even these monstrous repressive measures didn't save Fechner from the purge. He paid for his "soft" statement. First he was dismissed from his post as Minister of Justice and then expelled as an enemy of the party. According to the top Stalinist brass he "showed a wavering attitude" in making the "right to strike" declaration. It is clear now that at the very moment Fechner was talking about workers' rights he was ordering mass arrests of strikers.

Hilde Benjamin, who replaced Fechner, attacked his "leniency" and announced she would "show no mercy" to those arrested. The Stalinist boss of East Germany, Walter Ulbricht, straightened out the Fechner deviation by asserting, "It is intolerable in principle to strike in the German Democratic Republic. For striking against a workers state, the workers commit suicide."

In rejecting the demand of the workers for new elections in the unions, Warneke also attacked the right to strike and indirectly revealed the unbreakable spirit of solidarity, militancy and class pride of the workers by saying: "There is no cause to be proud of these strikes because as justified as some of your demands were, you have acted against the interests of your class and for the interests of your class enemies."

#### "WE ARE TO BLAME"

The workers are not likely to forget these cynical comments of the Stalinist liars who shouted from the roof-tops in the first days after the uprising: "We are completely to blame for what has happened!" "Give us 15 days to carry out our promises!"

As for carrying out promises, the same Warneke indicates what the Stalinists really meant. In his Aug. 15 speech he mentioned union officials who have been purged because of their conduct on June 17: "Comrade Sturm, second President of the Power Workers Union, failed to take suitable counter-measures at certain critical moments..."

Comrade Sturm has been dismissed from his office." He accused the District President of the postal workers union in Magdeburg of collecting "all the demands he could" (55 in all) and presenting them to the Government. "This is not wavering," Warneke said, "This is an attitude hostile to the workers and the state."

To the workers' demand that their comrades arrested after June 17 should be released he said: "We will not even consider sponsoring such proposals."

#### ALLIES SQUABBLE

Last week, a dispute among the Allied staffs in West Germany about the American food give-away maneuver came to light. The British and French have expressed doubts as to the wisdom of the tactic. Gaston Colbentz of the N. Y. Herald Tribune bureau in Berlin wrote Aug. 13 that "the British believe prolongation of the food program, as a large-scale propaganda maneuver in the cold war, is likely to decrease whatever possibilities may exist of getting the Russians to behave reasonably and enter serious four-power negotiations with the West for a settlement of European problems."

An even more revealing British objection is cited by Colbentz: "By inducing East Germans to go on defying the Communists, the food program could create the climate for another uprising like that of June 17..." The British contend that this is a somewhat imprudent and even irresponsible approach to international affairs.

Thus after the weeks of ballyhoo about the "cleverness" of the Dulles-Eisenhower food maneuver, the sober-minded British military staff in Germany point to the danger of the maneuver "inciting" another June 17. In this way world capitalism expresses its fear of another workers' uprising in East Germany. As France has demonstrated, general strikes can leap across borders.

A 63-year-old Negro is suing the Greyhound Bus Corp. for being forced to sit at the rear of the bus during a ride from Los Angeles to Texarkana, Tex. Ben Maddox, Los Angeles attorney said his client was forced to give up his seat at Dallas, Texas. The suit is for \$50,000.

## World Events

By Fred Hart

"CIGARETTE BUTTS are the subject of a thriving illicit trade in Italy," according to the Aug. 17 *Wall Street Journal*. "They're being collected and sold so the tobacco remaining in them can be made into full-length smokes again. The government outlaws the practice because the stubs are germ-ridden and are said to contain dangerous concentrations of nicotine. But American cigarette ends currently command \$2.52 a pound. With some 20 tons of butts being discarded in Rome alone each day, trade has become the entire means of support for some Italian families, officials report." And not just poor families, we suspect. The value of the raw material available in Rome for reconditioned cigarettes is above \$100,000 a day, or some \$36,500,000 a year. That's sufficient to attract many a graduate from the capitalist school of thought. As Marx observed, "The capitalist knows that all commodities, however scummy they may look, or however badly they may smell, are in faith and in truth money..."

#### HEADS OF NORTH KOREAN

government officials continued to roll last week in what the N. Y. *Times* termed "probably the most drastic purge ever undertaken in any Communist regime." In addition to the prominent figures reported in the last issue of *The Militant*, Pyongyang Radio announced Aug. 12 that seven more had been kicked out of office as "anti-party, anti-state." They were all members of the Stalinist party's Central Committee. Out of the 15-man body, 11 have now been purged as "counter-revolutionary elements" who allegedly plotted a "military revolt" in conspiracy with the U.S. "espionage agency in Seoul." An earlier report that Pak Hong Wong, Vice President, Foreign Minister and former General Secretary of the Korean Communist Party, was among those sentenced to death was corrected by the N. Y. *Times*. His dismissal was confirmed Aug. 3 by the announcement that Gen. Nam Il had been named Foreign Minister, but his present status remains unknown.

#### ADD MOROCCO TO THE SEA OF TROUBLES

Both Casablanca and Rabat were placed under martial law after rioting Aug. 16 that took the lives of at least 29. The French have put heavy pressure on the Sultan for "reforms" which they claim are for the good of Morocco but which would cut down the Sultan's power. Seeking support in the population itself, the French used certain elements to put pressure on the Sultan. He appealed to the world for help against French troops and the French government but was reported to have signed the decrees demanded by the French. The fundamental issue is the effort of the French colonial despots to contain the mounting pressure in Morocco for freedom and national sovereignty. With investments and key air bases in the straits-land, American capitalism is involved in the struggle.

#### DESPITE CONTINUED BOASTS

about cleaning up "communists" in Malaya and gaining the upper hand, the British imperialists were forced to admit Aug. 13 that the freedom fighters "still constitute a grave menace."

The guerrilla forces continue to win volunteer recruits and are backed by "tens of thousands of supporters." According to the N. Y. *Times* the Stalinists in Malaya have made a change of line, turning from "indiscriminate terrorism" to "softer methods of infiltration."

#### THE KREMLIN

made a conciliatory gesture to Washington and London Aug. 14 by agreeing to end the four-power censorship of letters, telegrams, telephonic and teletype communications in Austria. For six years the Stalinists had turned down all Allied proposals to end the censorship which cost the Austrian Government \$500,000 a year. The Western powers in response made a conciliatory gesture toward Moscow three days later by withdrawing their proposal for a "short treaty" for Austria and asking the Kremlin to send a deputy to London Aug. 31 to meet with delegates of Washington, London and Paris to complete a longer treaty. The Soviet Government had refused to even consider the "short treaty" proposed by the Allies.

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# Same Old Shell Game

By Myra Tanner Weiss

President Eisenhower's new anti-bias committee is a transparent fraud. His Aug. 13 order abolished Truman's defunct Committee on Government Contract Compliance and established a new Government Contract Committee. This is supposed to combat discrimination in hiring where government contracts are involved.

Eisenhower named Vice President Nixon to head the new Committee. His main qualification appears to be that he thinks like a Southern Bourbon, having signed restrictive covenants against Negroes, Jews, etc.

Eisenhower's other appointments to the 15-member Committee give only token representation to the Negro people through J. Ernest Wilkins, a Chicago attorney. Reuther and Meany represent labor and one woman was appointed, Mrs. Helen Rodgers Reid, chairman of the N. Y. *Herald Tribune*. With a biased Chairman and a Committee majority who at most give only lip service to the struggle against prejudice it is clear that the "strengthening" of Government procedures to enforce non-discrimination contracts, which Eisenhower boasted about in a publicity handout, is not to be found in the new personnel.

Nor is it to be found in the order itself which was issued by Eisenhower. There is no important difference from the order issued by Truman. The new Committee still has power only to make "recommendations" to the Government agency that issues the contract. The new Committee, like the old one, has no funds of its own with which to work. And like Truman's Committee, it can only encourage non-

government agencies to conduct anti-prejudice educational activities. Theoretically, non-compliance can be punished, as before, with termination of government contracts. But no contracts have ever been revoked as far as can be determined despite the fact that discriminatory practices are widespread.

The old Committee, the majority of whose members had resigned long before Eisenhower dissolved it, reported that the no-discrimination clause has had little practical effect. Government agencies have no effective procedures for checking compliance, and the Government's only enforcement weapon is termination of contracts.

Walter White and Clarence Mitchell of the NAACP hailed the Eisenhower order as they had previously hailed the Truman order. They said Eisenhower's action "merits the gratitude of thousands who are now denied a chance to work or use their highest skills in the mills and factories that hold government contracts."

This action, they said, "reaffirms the important principle that those who do business with the United States shall not refuse employment to qualified persons solely because of race, religion or national origin."

But working men and women who suffer the effects of prejudice most acutely cannot give "gratitude" for an action which merely "reaffirms" a principle but does absolutely nothing to carry out this principle in life. They will pay as little attention to Eisenhower's demagogic moves as they did to Truman's and proceed with their own anti-bias struggle. Only this struggle can win the war against prejudice.

# Another '29?

By Myra Tanner Weiss

The boom since the end of World War II is not a sign of the health of the economy but of mortal sickness. Production capacity has increased at the rate of \$15 billion a year, according to the June 6 *Business Week*. But unlike the boom of the '20s, expansion of production has required government expenditures that put the New Deal in the shade.

Business circles are asking whether we are heading for another '29 although, as the Aug. 17 *Wall Street Journal* points out, "By common consent, the word 'depression' is studiously avoided." But this reluctance to say the nasty word does not conceal the fact that economic prospects in '29 were many times less critical than today. To list only the most obvious differences: The index for industrial production grew from 110 in '29 to 192 in 1948. The federal debt has increased from roughly \$19 billion in '32 to \$259 billion in '52. And finally, the growth of the colonial revolution is rapidly eliminating a lush source of profits that existed in the pre-'29 days.

American economy is in real trouble. Such trouble that even an analogy with '29 is unrealistically optimistic. To escape, American capital will try to reduce labor costs. But that brings us to one more big difference with '29 — the industrial organization of the American workers.

*Business Week* of Aug. 15 presents a survey of business opinion called "Everybody Expects a Recession." The survey shows that industrialists expect "a big squeeze." As one executive put it: "We've been loafing too long. We'll have to work 10 times as hard next year. But we'll find we can do it. Matter of fact, I'm kind of looking forward to it." Another

businessman put it this way: "The lazy guys will have to go; the rest will work like dogs."

To reduce labor costs, Big Business needs a speed-up and, perhaps even more important, an army of unemployed workers to smash the big obstacle organized labor puts in the way of wage slashes. They have already learned the limitations of trying to cripple the labor movement with slave-labor legislation. As long as full employment exists no effective major offensive against the unions can be undertaken.

The initial disorganizing effect on the workers of a depression, however, would be a far shorter episode in the development of the crisis than in the early '30s precisely because of the powerful union movement. Despite the labor bureaucracy, the workers will be impelled to defend their positions by sweeping political organization and mass struggle. And as they feel their great power as a class they will not be satisfied with mere relief handouts. As the June 6 *Business Week* put it: The great productive capacity of this country could be used to "raise, across the board, the living standards of the U.S. consumer." And, we might add, to increase the leisure of the American workers.

But whereas *Business Week* goes on to show the impossibility of such a solution to the crisis, the American workers will think differently. After 13 years of relatively full employment American workers will not take kindly to the demand of Big Business that they become scabs and beggars. As it becomes clear that the only way we can have both full employment and peace is through a socialist reorganization of economy, the political struggle of the working class will be quickly transformed into the struggle for a socialist society.

# Notes from the News

**THE CIO UNITED PACKINGHOUSE WORKERS** is crashing down hard in the case of Jim Crow practices charged to its Southern District 9 Director A. O. McKinney, despite his threats to pull 5,000 members out of the union. A speedy trial of McKinney by the International Executive Board was asked by UPWA Vice President Russell R. Lasley and Secretary Treasurer G. R. Hathaway after they leveled grave charges against him of a "positive conspiracy to undermine and sabotage" the union's anti-discrimination policy. The two top UPWA officers who had conducted an on-the-spot investigation into complaints of McKinney's actions charged that he had ordered Negroes to leave a social affair of Local 275 in Atlanta, excluded a Negro staff member from staff meetings and permitted white staff members to physically threaten the Negro member. McKinney, they said, had been attacking the union's anti-discrimination program and "spread the lie that our union's vigorous fight against discrimination and equal rights for all our members proves that the union is 'Communist.'"

**ROCKWELL KENT** refused to testify before the McCarthy committee on his political beliefs. After placidly refusing to go into the ins and outs of his political affiliations he was finally dismissed from the witness stand. A reporter asked him confidentially if he ever was a communist. "Certainly not" said Kent. But, he explained, he didn't want to give McCarthy the satisfaction of a denial.

**TAKE IT EASY** and use some self-restraint is the advice of the *Cleveland Press* to landlords engaging in an orgy of gouging. With Federal rent control off, the landlords have been going to town with reckless profiteering. "In their own interest, the owners of rental property must exercise plenty of self-restraint. Rent control is finished. But it may return if landlords do not recognize the responsibility that goes with economic freedom." Might as well lecture hogs on the perils of overeating.

**BOUNCING CHECKS** are becoming a big worry to businessmen across the country, according to the *Wall Street Journal*. A Los Angeles super-market chain executive complains, "Our losses from bad checks have more than doubled since last year and the situation is getting worse." Mercantile Trust Co. of St. Louis reports 30% more bad checks in the last few months. In Philadelphia one group of banks reports that it is rejecting "about 80 bad checks a day, compared with only three to five a year ago." A Pittsburgh banker explains: "Money is harder to come by, so more people are trying to get it the easy way." He ought to know all about the easy way to get money.

**"THANK GOD** for good, patriotic jurors who do not fear to do their duty." This was the reaction of Judge Frank G. Schemanski to the conviction of 18 Detroiters who attended a social gathering sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress and were arrested on the pretext of violating the State Liquor ordinance. The witch-hunting character of the trial was given away by the comments of the judge. He exhorted the court with a red-baiting speech that didn't have the remotest connection with any ordinance violation. "The voice and conscience of our nation speaks out to our enemies at home and abroad through the jury verdicts of free men in such cases as this." Fines and probation sentences were handed down by the judge. He explained that he didn't give the maximum 90-day sentence "so the FBI and the Detroit subversive squad can keep track of these people."

**THE LUNCH HOUR RACE** caused a Detroit Chrysler worker, Edward McGinchee, to run headlong into the side of a car. He explained: "The minute the noon buzzer sounds more than 100 guys in my department race across the street to the restaurant." McGinchee, who is 56, said, "Seeing I'm the oldest guy in the department, I can never get a seat. This time I was leading the pack when I ran into the car. I missed lunch altogether." McGinchee was fined \$10. Chrysler, incidentally, has had a record profit year.

# THE MILITANT

## Weeps for Last GI Killed



Mrs. Harold R. Cross Jr. weeps in her Detroit home as she receives news that her husband (left) was last American soldier to be killed in Korea. Sgt. Cross, 24, was fatally wounded one hour and 20 minutes before truce went into effect. His wife was a German war bride. Total U.S. casualties in the "police action" are officially reported at more than 142,000.



# Weiss Hits Opponents' Stand on Hearn Strike

NEW YORK, Aug. 20 — The studied silence of all the capitalist-party candidates for mayor on the bitter Hearn department stores strike is proof positive that they are against labor whatever their claims to the contrary, charged David Weiss, mayoralty candidate of the Socialist Workers Party, in a statement here today.

Reiterating his own complete support of the strikers and sharply denouncing the company, Weiss said: "Not one of my opponents has spoken a word in defense of the strikers. They are trying to evade the issue because it completely exposes their real anti-labor attitude."

"I have made my position plain from the moment of my nomination. I am for the strikers 100% and denounce the position of the Hearn ownership as a brutal challenge to the rights of all labor in this city."

"I am waiting to hear what my opponents have to say — although it doesn't make any difference now. Even if one of them, put on the spot, should belatedly claim 'sympathy' for the strikers, it could only be lip service and demagoguery."

"The State CIO action comes none too soon. It has been apparent almost from the start of the strike that the company, backed by city officials, police, courts, yellow press and anti-union business interests, has been spearheading an attack on union standards in this city. If Hearn can break this strike and violate the seniority provisions of the union contract it will be the green light to every employer in town to do the same."

## HAIL CIO ACTION

The SWP banner-bearer, who heads the SWP municipal slate of four candidates, expressed satisfaction at the announcement yesterday by the New York State CIO that it has decided to throw its full strength behind the Hearn strikers and take over active direction of the three-months-old battle.

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"It makes my blood boil to see elderly women, who have served the Hearn stores for decades, forced to trudge a picket line in the hot sun to defend their jobs from a rotten, penny-pinching, ungrateful management. And I see red at the line-up of cops put there by the present city administration to intimidate the pickets."

"If that Hearn outfit is as broke as it claims, where does it get the dough for huge ads in the public press spreading lies about the strike and calling it 'communist'? Believe me, if I were mayor, I'd do everything in my power — which would be plenty — to stop the misuse of public agencies like the police to aid scab-herding."

"Open scrubbing in daylight is a greater offense to public decency than running around in the streets without clothes. The running of scabs into Hearn's is a menace to public health, safety and welfare and I'd put a stop to it if I were mayor. The rights of labor come first, last and always with me and my party."

# NAIL MICH. TRUCKS LAW AS "TOTALITARIAN" ACT

A hard-hitting circular against Michigan's Trucks Law, a "totalitarian measure violating the principles of American freedom," has just been issued by the Citizens Committee Against the Trucks Law.

The circular gives the main facts about the law, discusses the cases now pending under it, and cites representative opinion from prominent individuals and organizations opposed to it.

The law, enacted in April 1952, is ostensibly directed against the Communist Party but "provides broad arbitrary power to the state attorney general to label individuals and organizations as 'subversive' or 'communist fronts,'" says the circular.

As proof of the dangerous implications of the measure, the circular cites its use "to ban the Socialist Workers Party, the Michigan Citizens Committee Against the Trucks Law believes this effort to have the law voided in the courts merits support. Their suit obviously affords a better opportunity to secure a ruling on the issues than that brought by the Communist Party."

The Committee states that "in lending support to its court action no political support of the Socialist Workers Party is implied. The Committee merely registers its opposition to repressive measures against people with whose views it does not necessarily agree."

The Committee is a non-partisan group consisting of some 200 prominent Michigan citizens including outstanding leaders in civic, educational, labor, legal, and religious fields.

Copies of the circular can be obtained by writing to the Citizens Committee Against the Trucks Law, 1709 Ford Bldg., Detroit 26, Mich.

may be imposed for alleged acts of sabotage in labor disputes involving defense work."

Two challenges to the law are now pending in the courts, one by the Socialist Workers Party, the other by the Communist Party. The court action was delayed while the Legislature acted on some proposed amendments which altered nothing fundamental in the act. The suits are now expected to come up shortly.

## SWP SUIT

"The constitutional issues appear to be clearly posed in the suit of the Socialist Workers Party," the circular declares. "The Citizens Committee Against the Trucks Law believes this effort to have the law voided in the courts merits support. Their suit obviously affords a better opportunity to secure a ruling on the issues than that brought by the Communist Party."

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# Judge Overrules Book Ban To Uphold Right to "Ogle"

Youngstown's "Battle of the Ogle" ended in a victory for the forces of free speech and press when Federal Judge Charles J. McNamee granted an injunction to a New York publishing firm against Edward J. Allen Jr., police chief of the Ohio city.

Allen objected to another book, whose cover showed a woman holding a robe around her, because if the woman dropped her hand "whatever it is — it looks like an outer garment — would fall."

In the course of his testimony, the police chief said he caused the removal of the pocket-book edition of James T. Farrell's "Young Lonigan" as "indecent" and "immoral" because of its cover, showing a group of young men glancing at two attractive girls.

"That is the kind of ogling that goes on at many street corners and which our police officers would break up if they saw it," asserted Allen.

Asked by the attorney for the plaintiff, the New American Library of World Literature, Inc., how he defined an ogle, the police chief said: "An ogle is a peculiar kind of a look."

Allen objected to another book, whose cover showed a woman holding a robe around her, because if the woman dropped her hand "whatever it is — it looks like an outer garment — would fall."

The judge ruled that "the defendant Allen possessed no lawful power to suppress publications under threat of prosecution. He said that "censorship in any form is an assault on freedom of the press. A censorship that suppresses books in circulation is an infringement of that freedom."

The Youngstown police chief's book-banning activities are related to a censorship movement to boycott and ban "immoral" books initiated by a Catholic society in a number of cities, including Chicago, Brooklyn and Cleveland, and to Senator McCarthy's book-burning campaign directed at the U.S. overseas libraries.

# Puerto Ricans in Slums Of 'City of Opportunity'

By Harry Ring

"Out of the frying pan and into the fire." This is the harsh and bitter fact for the mass of Puerto Rican people who have migrated to New York in the vain hope that they could in this way escape the poverty and brutal exploitation visited upon them by the American Big Business stranglehold on their native island.

There are today some 425,000 first and second generation Puerto Ricans living in New York, according to the N. Y. Post, which recently made an excellent study of their plight. Of these, 59,103 arrived in "The City of Opportunity" during the past year alone. Another 30,500 have come during the first four months of this year.

They came inspired by the eternal dream of opportunity for a decent job at a living wage, the means to provide their kids with a comfortable home, an education, a chance to work their way towards a better life. Their dreams vanished with the rude awakening they got in New York. They have for the most part been given jobs mopping the worst sweatshops in the city, at near-starvation wages. They have been given the opportunity to live like sardines in the vermin and rat infested tenements that were hardly fit for human habitation when they were built 70 and more years ago to house the wave of luckless immigrants who came then with the same dreams.

## SCOURGE OF TB

Their kids are subject "to all the infections that are prevalent in the areas in which they live," according to hospital commissioner Kogel. "Their babies get sick oftener," he says, "and their younger age group come into the hospitals with more active conditions."

The dreaded tuberculosis germ breeds like magic in the dark and dirty hovels they are compelled to call home. The death rate from TB is three times greater among the Puerto Rican people than the city's population generally. Poverty, malnutrition, lack of

pre-natal care add up to the highest infant mortality rate in the city. As compared with an average city-wide death rate of 24 out of every 1,000 live births, for the Puerto Rican families the average death rate is close to 35 out of each 1,000 live births.

## JIM CROW PREJUDICE

The cruel whip of racial discrimination which has beaten so long and savagely upon the backs of the city's Negro population is now shared by the Puerto Ricans. In every sphere of life — economic, social and political, they are subject to all of the rigidly established Jim Crow laws of inequality, segregation and deprivation of rights.

The records show that the clubs and gangs of trigger-happy members of "New York's finest" have run up a high toll of broken heads and bullet-ridden bodies of innocent victims in the Puerto Rican communities.

A minimum of ten defenseless Puerto Ricans and Negroes have been shot down in cold blood during the past two years alone. The guilty cops have had the full backing of Police Commissioner Monaghan. Not one has been punished for his crime. Monaghan has been exposed for having made a deal with the FBI whereby that agency would not act upon any complaints made to it by victims of police brutality.

In the face of all this, Monaghan should be awarded some kind of medal as the most despicable hypocrite of the year for his pious statement to a N. Y. Post reporter that Puerto Ricans "have always received a warm welcome in this office. We do everything possible to iron out difficulties that exist between those who have come to our shores recently and the Police Dept. That's the way I want it to be. They all applaud our human relations program that began several weeks ago."

There is no record available concerning the "warm welcome" extended to Puerto Ricans at Monaghan's office. But there is a well established record of Puerto

Ricans who have received a "warm welcome" in the back rooms of local precincts at the hands of club and hose-swinging cops.

Life in this city for a Puerto Rican was movingly described to a Post reporter by 17-year-old Herman Rodriguez. He told him of his first day in school, two years ago:

"The teacher introduced me to the class and told me where to sit. As soon as I took my seat two kids got up from their desks and walked out. What could I do? I didn't want to make any trouble."

"Lots of people never let you forget you're a Puerto Rican. The lady next door insulted me just the other day. She's not sick or old. She's young and knew what she was saying. Most of my friends feel the same way I do, that we don't belong here. You can't even go to a movie without getting into a fight."

"Sometimes I'm happy but most of the time I get sick and mad about what happens to the Puerto Ricans here. When it happens to me, sometimes I get into an argument and then I stop and feel sorry for the people who are prejudiced."

"If people would just try to know us they'd find out some of us aren't so hot, but plenty of us are good, just the same as any other kind of people."

"Some kids I know are quitting school and taking any kind of job they can get, but not me. My stepfather was a merchant seaman and got torpedoed in the war. I'm going to study and go to sea too, so I can take care of my mother and sister and show people that Puerto Ricans can make good if they get a chance."

New York's subway straphangers, after taking another beating in the pocketbook when Impellitteri raised fares to 15 cents, are now promised a beating in the ears. Loudspeakers are to be installed in the largest stations to bellow advice to the human sardines like "Please don't crowd." Those who have tried them all say that New York's subways are already the noisiest in the world.

# In the Unions

By Joseph Keller

Hearn Department Store strikers in New York City have beaten an attempt by the Commerce and Industry Association to get the city to revoke the license of the CIO Distributive Workers to solicit funds publicly to aid the 800 workers in the bitter three-month fight. This strike in defense of union seniority rights deserves the moral and material support of all workers. Remember that if you are approached for a contribution.

Steel companies appear to be stepping up reprisals against union locals and introducing new onerous conditions. Crucible Steel fired seven employees from the Spaulding Works at Harrison, N. J., for reporting sick on a Saturday after the company had ordered the men to work from Tuesday through Saturday instead of Monday through Friday as customary. 1,170 members of CIO Steelworkers Local 2194 and Local 1339 struck to protest the firings. A week-long so-called wild-cat strike also closed the Fairless Works of U.S. Steel at Morrisville, Pa., over the issue of incentive pay, which is causing a lot of grief and grievances in the steel plants these days.

The CIO Rubber Workers and AFL Machinists have signed a no-raiding agreement as a defense against "reactionary employers." Several months ago the Machinists concluded a similar pact with the CIO auto workers.

A far-reaching joint action agreement between the CIO United Packinghouse Workers and the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters contains a new feature. The unions have agreed in writing to conduct joint wage negotiations wherever both unions have dealings with the same employer and that neither union is to reach a settlement with such companies without first securing approval of the other union.

Organization of the Linden Labor Council at Linden, N. J., comprising AFL, CIO and independent unions, was announced on Aug. 15. This is part of the

trend toward labor unity through local joint action.

Voting to ban racial segregation in its 400 local unions, the American Federation of Teachers, AFL, adopted a constitutional amendment at its 33rd annual convention in Peoria on Aug. 15 which states in part that "the practice of any local in limiting its membership on account of race or color shall render its charter void."

The CIO is sponsoring a nationwide radio program of news and commentary to begin on Labor Day, Sept. 7. John W. Vandercook is to be the broadcaster. Look for the announcement of the time and local station in your hometown newspapers.

The Michigan CIO News of Aug. 13 complains of the "sins of omission and commission" of the just-adjourned Congress and says that "any worker who thinks his representative or senator has played him for a sucker in this last session doesn't have to sit back and turn his cheek. All he has to do is use his vote. . . . Use his vote for what, for whom? Some more phony capitalist politicians labeled 'friends of labor' by the union officials? The worker is 'played for a sucker' every time he listens to advice to vote for any candidate of the Democratic or Republican parties. The worker needs something worth voting for — a labor party, labor candidates and a fighting program in labor's own interests."

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