

British Workers Score Churchill's H-Bomb Threats

By Daniel Roberts

Because he gave voice to the British working people's opposition to Wall Street's H-bomb war plans, Aneurin Bevan was threatened with expulsion from the Labor Party last week. Bevan heads the left-wing in the party.

The right wing headed by Clement Attlee wants to take disciplinary action against Bevan because he failed to vote for an amendment that in effect endorsed Prime Minister Churchill's H-bomb policy. In a major policy speech in the House of Commons on March 1 Churchill sought to justify Tory policy to start making H-bombs in England.

Churchill stated that this was really a policy of peace and ultimate disarmament, since H-bombs would prove to be a deterrent to "Soviet aggression."

Attlee and the other right-wingers agreed with Churchill's contention and only criticized details of the Tory policy on armaments. This caused Bevan to openly challenge their stand by demanding assurances from Attlee that the Labor Party was not aligned behind "nuclear recklessness." Bevan and 61 other Labor Members of Parliament abstained on the right wing's amendment.

So mild was the Attlee criticism of the Tory policy that the

March 3 Christian Science Monitor said, "If a vote had been taken on straight issue of whether or not Britain should make and use the H-bomb, the voting most likely would have been 499 in favor and 57 against." (That is, the right wing would be counted with the Tories and the Bevanites would have voted against.)

It is true that Bevan's own stand did not definitely rule out H-bomb making by England. He appealed for a policy that would forbid H-bomb use unless Russia used them first, and he demanded new disarmament negotiations with the Soviet Union.

However, this opposition, for all its confusion, registers the bitter enmity of the British working people to the war plans initiated by the U.S. government and seconded by British imperialism. Bevan's main accusation against the Tory government is that it obeys dictates of the U.S. government and is not responsive to the will of the British people. The Bevanites also voice working-class opposition to continued conscription and to the high cost of the military budget which eats into the living standards of the working people.

The conflict in the British Labor Party comes on the heels of labor demonstrations in West Germany against that country's rearmament and inclusion in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Indeed in all NATO countries the working people have demonstrated their opposition to being dragged by their respective capitalist masters in a new World War under the direction of the American government.



CHURCHILL

Protest Hits Proposed Illinois Police-State Bill

By J. Booth

CHICAGO — The branch of the Socialist Workers Party here wired Illinois' Governor Stratton on Feb. 23 to take a strong stand to prevent the passage of the police state legislation known as the Broyles Bills.

The telegram said in part, "Arbitrary listing of organizations and branding them subversive without benefit of hearings is thought control legislation. Such

legislation pretends to be aimed at 'subversives', but actually is aimed at the labor movement. Subversive lists and loyalty oaths will be used against union militants and could be used to prevent independent political action by labor."

The Broyles Bills do three things: (1) Declares "subversive" acts unlawful. (2) Declares membership in "subversive" organizations unlawful. (3) Permits the discharge of state and local employees who are "subversive persons."

MORE DANGEROUS
Previous attempts by Senator Broyles to pass such legislation were met with defeat due primarily to organized protest by labor unions, campus organizations, civic and fraternal groups. The present bills show every indication of being approved by the state legislature and by Governor Stratton.

Heralded as "watered down" versions, close examination of the bills reveals that they are more dangerous than ever before.

For example, any violation of Section 2 of S.B. No. 59 is liable to penalties up to \$20,000, and any violator of Section 3 of the bill is liable to imprisonment for five years. These sections make it unlawful to knowingly be a member of a "subversive organization" or a foreign subversive organization.

Section 6 forbids public employees from being members of "any subversive organization or foreign subversive organization" included in the following lists of organizations which are designated by the Attorney General of the United States as subversive organizations. There then follows a list of some 256 organizations which have thus far been singled out by the U.S. Attorney General.

In this attempt to have the Illinois legislature adopt the Attorney General's list, the bills' sponsors have deliberately forgotten that the U.S. Supreme Court has carefully limited the effect of an organization's being on the list. Furthermore, S. B. No. 59 expresses no limitations on the length of the list. That is, the number of organizations listed could be increased at any time without action by Congress or the Legislature and without benefit of hearings.

Milwaukee-How Auto Merger Has Affected Worker

By Farrell Dobbs

National Secretary Socialist Workers Party

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 25—What did it mean for the workers involved when Hudson and Nash merged to form the American Motors Corporation?

Here are the facts as I found them in relation to the Hudson plant at Detroit and the Nash facilities here in Wisconsin:

Squeezed by the Big Three of auto, these smaller outfits try to hang on through merciless speed-up pressures on the workers, automation and consolidation of production facilities. To effect such a consolidation Hudson operations are being moved to the Nash plants and production at the Hudson plant correspondingly closed down.

That change has already caused over half of 8,000 Hudson workers to lose their jobs. If these workers are willing to move from Detroit to Wisconsin and take their chances at the bottom of the Nash seniority list, they can have preference over unemployed Wisconsin workers seeking jobs at Nash. Few Hudson workers have thus far accepted this proposition.

Due to the absorption of Hudson manufacture and to the current production race in auto, Nash operations are at a peak. Seniority workers previously laid off have been called back and some new hiring is taking place. Whites can get jobs at either the Milwaukee body plant or the Kenosha engine and assembly plants, but Negroes have the

(Continued on page 2)

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3 Paid Informers Rip Holes In Frame-up System of FBI

Legless Vet Speaks at Harvard U.

BOSTON, March 5 — James Kutcher presented his case against the witch-hunters before two meetings in the Boston area.

On Feb. 23 he spoke at a banquet arranged by the Community Church of Boston. Kutcher, who lost both his legs in World War II, told how he was fired in 1948 from his clerk's job with the Newark Branch of the Veteran's Administration. His "crime" was membership in the Socialist Workers Party, which the Attorney General arbitrarily listed as "subversive," without ever granting the party a public hearing.

Kutcher thus became one of the first victims of the U.S. government's "loyalty" purge. Although the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia found in October 1952 that he had been illegally fired, Kutcher never was returned to his job. He is again suing in the Federal courts.

"I am not fighting merely to get my job back," Kutcher said. "I am challenging the legality of the whole government 'loyalty' program and the rest of the witch-hunt."

Professor Livingston of Massachusetts Institute of Technology was another speaker at the banquet and spoke for freedom of thought for scientists.

On March 3, Kutcher addressed the Harvard Liberal Union at Emerson Hall in the Yard. "This country used to pride itself on its traditions of freedom," he said, "but people now are afraid to speak their mind. Fear pervades the country." Big Business invented the lie of the "Communist conspiracy," he charged, "to silence all opponents of its war drive."

Mark De Wolfe Howe, Harvard professor of Law, also spoke against thought-control measures. Commenting on Kutcher's book, *The Case of the Legless Veteran*, Howe said, "Kutcher's book is not only a very effective piece of political propaganda but a moving personal story as well."

While Kutcher was speaking here against the witch-hunt, Myra Tanner cited his case as an example of the "loyalty" program's injustice in an interview on Feb. 25 over WKCR, the Columbia University station in New York.

"A hard hitting" campaign is being sponsored by the National Association of Manufacturers against the guaranteed annual wage and other labor union aims. A letter is being circulated to business men for a "gigantic propaganda fund" to defeat labor's chief 1955 goals.

COMMITTEE FORMED

Already scheduled to appear at the public hearing are representatives of the newly formed Citizens Committee Against Section 685 of Senate Bill 1011. This nonpartisan group considers Section 685 to be "unjust and unwise"

the bankers too big a cut through its system of bond issues in the various states. Senator Paul Douglas (D-Ill.), a champion of civil rights until the chips are down (then he turns tail on a dime), even asked if the Eisenhower program wouldn't give federal money to the educational authorities of Georgia, who have sworn to evade the Supreme Court ruling.

Then, however, the Democratic Party's bill on school aid was brought forth by Senator Lister Hill of Alabama. It provided for a little more federal aid, but still terribly inadequate to meet the need, to be granted directly rather than loaned. It included no provisions to require states receiving aid to comply with the Supreme Court decision.

NAACP PROPOSAL

Clarence Mitchell, spokesman for the NAACP appeared before the Senate committee and asked that whatever bill the committee decided on contain an amendment clearly requiring that each state receiving aid "certify that the

German Workers Protest



West German police hold back one of a group of demonstrators, protesting ratification of the Paris rearmament accord, in front of the Bundestag in Bonn. The West German trade union movement is opposing the treaties which would put a huge armed force in the hands of the labor-hating capitalist rulers.

GROUP FORMED TO FIGHT MICH. BALLOT-BAN BILL

DETROIT, March 2 — Opposition to a bill threatening the ballot rights of minority parties in Michigan was gaining ground this week as a public hearing on the measure was announced by the State Senate Committee on Elections.

Senate Bill 1011 contains a provision to increase the number of signatures required of minority parties and new parties from one per cent to 7 1/2 per cent of the votes received by the successful candidate for Secretary of State at the preceding general election. The increased figure is so high that it would virtually exclude all but the two major parties from the state ballot.

Senator Clyde Geerlings, Republican chairman of the Senate Committee on Elections who introduced Bill 1011, has announced a hearing on the measure in the Senate Chamber in Lansing on the night of March 9. A number of organizations and prominent individuals are expected to speak against Section 685, the provision affecting new and minority parties.

Last Friday the executive board of the Michigan CIO Council, meeting in Grand Rapids, decided to oppose Section 685. The CIO's Legislative Conference in Lansing a month ago took a similar position.

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Eisenhower Reinforces Purge Policy

By Joseph Keller

Eisenhower and his Attorney General Brownell have reaffirmed the basic unconstitutional features of the government "loyalty" purge system inaugurated by Truman. Under the pretense of "reorganizing" the "security program" to better protect accused persons, the Administration has actually reinforced the most obnoxious features of the program.

1. It denies the right of accused federal employees to confront their accusers. It states that a government informer "may be" confronted and cross-examined by the employe provided this "would not jeopardize national security." Whenever the Justice Department or FBI say that confrontation of one of their secret informers might "jeopardize national security," the accused will be denied an elementary right guaranteed in the Constitution.

Brownell stated, in a Supreme Court brief filed March 4, the day before he released the text of the "security program" revisions, that "undercover agents, paid informers and casual informers" should be "guaranteed anonymity" in most instances. In any case, the text of the revisions makes clear that "the statute does not provide subpoena power for witnesses." No FBI secret accuser can be made to appear.

2. The power of dismissal remains in the hands of heads of federal agencies. There is no machinery for appeal from the final ruling of a department head who is prosecutor, judge and jury in the first case. The revised rules merely suggest that accused persons be given a "personal interview" before they are kicked out.

3. Federal employes already subjected to the most thoroughgoing investigation and "cleared" can be re-investigated all over again as many times as the Department officials see fit. The witch-hunt is endless.

4. The catch-all definition of "security risk" is retained. They can frame anyone as a "security risk."

This "reorganized" program was put out following the exposure of the Justice Department's paid informer system by government witnesses who have confessed their lies. It is also an answer to the Supreme Court appeal of Dr. John Punnett Peters who has charged he was fired by a "star chamber" proceedings in which he was not allowed to face his accuser, who, press reports indicate, is the notorious professional informer Louis Budenz.

Matusow Gives Proof At Senate Hearing He Lied for Government

By Art Preis

As Department of Justice and FBI officials strive frantically to shore up the crumbling structure of their "anti-Communist" frameup system built on the lies of paid informers, new gaping holes are being punched in the rotten walls.

First, three bought stoolpigeons in a row — Harvey Matusow, Marie Natvig and Lowell Watson — publicly confessed they gave false testimony to help federal prosecutors and Congressional witch-hunters victimize hundreds of people.

Now, Matusow has turned the tables on the Senate Internal Security Committee's attempt to discredit his repudiation of testimony that helped secure convictions in two trials and smeared the reputations of 245 persons.

IDIOTS OR CONNIVERS

The Senators savagely cross-examined him in an effort to trick or bludgeon him into recanting his admission that he lied as a government informer. But Matusow did not give an inch even under open threats of perjury charges. Instead, he proved that the Senators themselves are either self-demonstrated idiots for accepting without question his frameup testimony or deliberate connivers in a conspiracy to slander innocent persons for political ends.

"Why did you ever believe me in the first place?" asked Matusow of the Senators at a subcommittee hearing. They should have "known better" than to have believed him after some of the "absurd" statements he had made. He cited his statements about hordes of "Communists" on the staffs of the *Sunday N. Y. Times* and *Time Magazine*.

"That should have given you pause," Matusow rubbed it in. He referred to the unblinking acceptance on March 13, 1952, by the Senate committee headed



MARIE NATVIG

by the late Senator McCarran, of the incredible statement: "I knew by sight probably 10,000 party members in New York." This absolute genius for remembering faces [FBI Chief Hoover had said there were only 11,000 CP members in New York City] was combined with a relatively weak remembrance for names. In appearances before 25 different witch-hunt hearings and in two trials, Matusow had been able to dredge up references to a total of 245 persons—including Methodist Bishop Oxnham.

He further referred to the unquestioned acceptance of his statement in October, 1952, before a Senate Internal Security subcommittee hearing on the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers (Continued on page 3)

Carpenter Local Hears SWP Candidate in L.A.

LOS ANGELES, March 5 — Robert Morgan, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Board of Education in the Los Angeles school district, got a friendly reception when he spoke to Local 1976 of the AFL Carpenters Union last Wednesday.

Morgan explained the witch-hunt and loyalty-oath measures in the school systems so that every

unionist could understand their reactionary character. He pledged to carry on a fight, if elected, against the repressive measures. "Every teacher fired for political reasons," he said, "should be immediately reinstated. The falsification of labor and Negro history in our textbooks and classrooms must be stopped. A committee representing labor and the minority groups should be selected to supervise the cleansing of our school curricula of all bigotry and anti-labor bias."

Following the talk a number of questions were addressed to the speaker. One member asked, "Why don't you try and get endorsement of the AFL Central Labor Council. You have a very good program."

Morgan replied, "The top union officials don't see the danger of the witch hunt. They still live in hope of escaping its consequences. They aren't ready to fight for labor's independent political interests. That's why they don't support labor candidates but remain tied to the capitalist political machines."

"But the growing mass of anti-labor legislation and the threat of economic crisis will force the unions to face the issue and realize that radical problems require radical solutions."

It was reported that several members of the local continued to press for endorsement after the candidate left the meeting.

Another Liberal Betrayal on Civil Rights

By John Thayer

"Protect me from my liberal 'friends' I can take care of my enemies," might well be the slogan for the Negro people in the current fight to prevent federal subsidization of Jim Crow schools. This was demonstrated by the Senate liberals in the recent Senate committee hearings on federal school aid legislation. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People urged an anti-segregation amendment to the bills under consideration. This proposal was killed by those great election-day "friends" of labor and the Negro people, the liberal Democrats.

SCENE OF CRIME

The knifing of the anti-segregation amendment took place in the hearings that have developed around Eisenhower's school aid program. The Democrats, out to make a record that will look good to the labor and Negro vote when the 1956 elections roll around, jumped on Eisenhower's program with both feet. They pointed out its inadequacy and that it gave

the bankers too big a cut through its system of bond issues in the various states. Senator Paul Douglas (D-Ill.), a champion of civil rights until the chips are down (then he turns tail on a dime), even asked if the Eisenhower program wouldn't give federal money to the educational authorities of Georgia, who have sworn to evade the Supreme Court ruling.

Then, however, the Democratic Party's bill on school aid was brought forth by Senator Lister Hill of Alabama. It provided for a little more federal aid, but still terribly inadequate to meet the need, to be granted directly rather than loaned. It included no provisions to require states receiving aid to comply with the Supreme Court decision.

NAACP PROPOSAL

Clarence Mitchell, spokesman for the NAACP appeared before the Senate committee and asked that whatever bill the committee decided on contain an amendment clearly requiring that each state receiving aid "certify that the

school facilities of the state are open to all children without regard to race, in conformity with the requirements of the U. S. Supreme Court's decisions."

Spokesmen for the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations likewise appeared before the committee and read official resolutions of their organizations against federal aid to Jim Crow schools. The AFL's official position was made stronger on the first day of the hearings when AFL President George Meany sent a telegram to Negro labor leader A. Philip Randolph reaffirming AFL support for an anti-segregation amendment.

Despite this it has become evident that the Democratic-controlled Senate committee is going to bring out a bill which contains no such amendment. The reason for this is that Northern liberal Democrats on the committee, notably Douglas of Illinois and McNamara of Michigan are against it. They announced that attachment of an anti-segregation amendment would mean that the

bill would be defeated. Therefore they were against the amendment.

DIXIECRAT BUDDIES

This is the second stage of the abject retreat of the liberal Democrats before their white-supremacist Southern colleagues. Not only don't they fight for civil rights measures, they don't even wait till the Dixiecrats start filibustering before running. Now they even save their Southern buddies the trouble of speaking against such things as the anti-segregation amendment, they do it for them. And isn't that a nicer way to kill civil rights measures? It's much less scandalous for the Democratic Party if its done — not by a Southern Senator in the name of Jim Crow — but by a liberal "friend" of the Negro people with a crocodile tear of regret in his eye.

The Northern liberal Democrats sold out the possibility of passage of civil rights laws in this 84th Congress on the opening day of the session. On that first day they broke their long-

standing promises to fight for a change in the Senate rules allowing filibusters. They made no fight and those rules automatically went into effect for two years. Now they have surrendered another important parliamentary weapon — amending or putting civil rights riders on other legislation. All the liberals have done for civil rights is to toss eleven bills in the hopper. They expect these to die quiet deaths in committee pigeonholes. Should one somehow get out onto the Senate floor they would put up only a sham fight for it. Otherwise it would put their Southern colleagues to the inconvenience of filibustering it.

This program won't produce any advances in the struggle for civil rights. But then it isn't intended to. It's intended to preserve unity with the powerful Dixiecrat wing of the Democratic Party and to provide the Northern liberals with enough of a pro-civil rights "record" to enable them to pose as "friends" of labor and the Negro people at the next elections.

Subscription information for THE MILITANT, including rates for domestic and foreign subscribers, and contact information for the publisher, MURRY WEISS.

Schools and Witch Hunt

World Events

By Frank Lovell
SWP Candidate for Michigan Superintendent of Public Instruction

Wall St.'s 'Right' to Be in Formosa

When the U.S. fleet intervened to cover Chiang Kai-shek's withdrawal from several Chinese islands, the well-known conservative columnist Walter Lippmann made a revealing criticism of Eisenhower's stated purpose for interfering in the Chinese civil war.

other free nations, the geographical backbone of their security structure in that ocean. Lippmann is correct when he indicates that U.S. "defense" of the off-shore Chinese islands smacks of open military aggression.

Free the Witch-Hunt Victims!

The evidence is now conclusive that the Department of Justice and the FBI secured their convictions against political dissenters by using perjured testimony of government-paid informers.

posure of the methods of the Department of Justice and the FBI. We are fully aware of the fact that the witch hunters will fight desperately to keep every victim of their perjured testimony in prison.

Another Object Lesson in Politics

The recent victory of Richard J. Daley as candidate for Mayor of Chicago on the Democratic ticket is part of the same political pattern manifested in the 1954 Congressional elections.

But it shouldn't be imagined, for a moment that these circumstances are peculiar to Chicago. The Kennellys of the Democratic Party are everywhere — and so are the Daleys.

Editor's note: This is the fourth and last article of a series on education. We regret that a number of typographical errors in the second article of this series (Feb. 28) gave an erroneous picture of the situation in the Michigan schools.

DETROIT — Teachers were the first victims of the witch hunt unleashed by the Truman administration eight years ago. This has served to drive some of the most competent teachers out of the public schools.

Like thousands of others, these teachers were fired without any attempt to show why they should be considered incompetent.

... Rip New Holes in Frame-up System

(Continued from page 1) Union, that there were more than 100 dues-paying members of the Communist Party on the editorial staff of the N.Y. Times and 76 employed by Time, Inc.

them anyhow." He came up with the statement that 500 of the 1,200 students at Antioch supported "all the activities and the line" of the Communist Party.

CP leaders now in prison? Would not he give the kind of testimony that could be easily exposed and therefore spoil the government's case?

THE QUESTIONS RAISED Roscoe Drummond, Washington columnist for the Republican N.Y. Herald Tribune, wrote in the March 7 issue of the "Lessons From the Matusow Mess."

They are going after Matusow for the "crime" of recanting false testimony. But the criminals in the case are all those who knowingly and deliberately have been using Matusow — and other paid informers — to smear and frame innocent men and women.

Serfdom on Long Island?

The United Journal, a Chinese-language newspaper printed in New York City, reports a shocking case of involuntary servitude within the very shadow of the United Nations.

According to the March 7 issue of this paper four servants of H. H. Kung left his palatial estate on Long Island without giving the usual notice to an employer. But this boss, who is one of the former top dogs of the corrupt Chiang Kai-shek regime and an influential figure in the China Lobby, did not simply hire four more servants. He acted in the style to which he was accustomed in the old days before the Chinese people drove his kind off the mainland and onto Formosa.

One servant was caught and returned like a run-away serf or slave. The other three, in fear of a similar fate are in hiding.

The facts, reported as follows by the United Journal, are so shocking that they warrant immediate investigation by the labor movement and organizations interested in defending the rights of minority peoples:

"Recently we heard that a millionaire's four servants had left their employer because they were mistreated. This newspaper obtained the real story from the deserting servants. It learned that the millionaire is Mr. Kung, the former Secretary of the Treasury and Assistant Secretary of State of the Chinese Nationalist Government (Formosa regime).

"The four servants are Mr. Hsu, Mr. Lee, Mr. Wong and Mr. Liao. Together they have run away from their employer, except for Mr. Hsu, who was caught and brought back. The other three are still hiding. The reason they left their employer was that the work was too hard and the pay too small. It is a labor question. . . The following is the story told by two of the workers, Mr. Wong and Mr. Liao.

"Misters Wong, Hsu and Lee came to New York from Hong Kong on April 27, 1954 in the status of servants of a (Chiang Kai-shek) government official. Their passports were taken away from them by the Kung family as soon as they arrived. Mr.

Liao arrived in San Francisco from Hong Kong on April 28 of the same year. His passport was taken away by the Nationalist Chinese consul in San Francisco. This then was the situation of these four men upon their arrival: they were in a foreign country, they didn't know anyone, they did not understand the language and they didn't understand the customs.

"The four workers, except Mr. Lee, all had special skills. Mr. Hsu is a masseur, Mr. Wong is a chef, and Mr. Liao is a tailor. At first they were paid \$150 a month. Later on, except for Mr. Liao, they were cut to \$100 a month and the other \$50 was called a bonus and kept by the employer.

"The Kung's mansion is on Feek's Lane in Long Island, N. Y. The masters are Mr. Kung, Mrs. Kung and Miss Kung. The mansion is a three-floor building with 56 rooms and a huge garden. Beside the special job of each servant, they had to sweep the floor, wash windows, plant and pick flowers, move furniture and wash instruments. It is very hard work, very tiring. Every day as a rule they had to start at 7 A. M. and work until night, 11 or 12 P. M., sometimes till 2 or 3 in the morning, leaving only five to six hours for rest and sleep. Since a year ago when they arrived they have always worked like this — even on Sundays. They were not allowed to rest. They were under the very, very strict supervision of Miss Kung, whom they had to address as 'Chief Manager.' They united together and decided to leave on the morning of the Chinese New Year.

"Mr. Hsu, who went to work on a farm in New York, has been caught and brought back. Now the question is: Will he be punished? Mr. Lee went to Washington, D. C. while Mr. Wong and Mr. Liao are still hiding in New York City. Knowing that the Kung family is having an all-out search made for them, they will not give their addresses. These two workers who tell this true story have declared that even if it means their lives, they will never go back. They are extremely worried because their passports were taken away from them by the Kung family and their living here becomes a problem."

Police War on Youth

By Hugh Moore

The Prison Association of New York devoted a major part of its Feb. 14 report to juvenile delinquency. "Environment," the report declares, is the main factor causing the increase of "anti-social youth."

The environment they speak of is the "indifference of parents," "lack of community interest," "inertia of the church," "the smelly streets of the slums," and "the boredom of Park Avenue."

The Prison Association is headed by the eminent cop Edward P. Mulrooney, former New York City Police Commissioner. He was also a commissioner of the State Department of Correction. Under such leadership the Association obviously feels qualified not only to analyse the cause for juvenile delinquency but also to prescribe the cure.

They reject such recent proposals as the arrest of parents of juvenile delinquents and public whippings. These remedies do not "appeal" to the Association. Instead they propose "expanded use of existing agencies — which simply boils down to the need for money and more personnel."

More money and more personnel for "existing agencies" means more jails, more cops and more prison guards. But prisons are notoriously the "finishing schools" for criminals. Is there a single authority who would claim that the prison system rehabilitates either adult or youthful inmates?

The Prison Association is of course well aware of this. That's why they preface their "solution" with the cautioning remark that there is no "quick and easy cure." But what they propose is no cure at all. They merely express their desire to in-

crease the take of the police and prison bureaucracy.

Actually the "solution" proposed by the Prison Association is the accepted and prevailing method of capitalist society in treating the problem of juvenile delinquents. There may be disagreements over how much more money and more personnel should be allocated at a particular time, but as for the method involved, that is agreed upon. More police to conduct a war against the youth.

But police and prisons don't stop the growth of "delinquency." Capitalist society in its decay produces an environment of violence, frustration, insecurity, official hypocrisy, glorified lies, and the all-pervading stench of a witch hunt. What young person can derive inspiration from such an environment?

Millions of youth today live in overcrowded slums, attend understaffed, overcrowded schools, know only poverty, discrimination, segregation, and exploitation as the gifts society is ready to bequeath them. For the youth on the threshold of manhood, the future offers either the army or the ranks of the unemployed. Is it any wonder that with such conditions and prospects, and without a known solution at hand, youth will manifest its hatred and pent-up dissatisfaction with such a life in a distorted, "delinquent" way?

Capitalist politicians can only offer the youth wars, police and prisons. Thus they isolate themselves more and more from youth and its aspirations. Thus they hasten the day when the youth will find its true banner and future in the fight for socialism.

Notes from the News

TWO CIO UNIONS IN MERGER convention in Cleveland, Ohio. They are the Oil Workers and the Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers. A new name has not as yet been decided on. The new union will have a combined membership of over 200,000. It will begin a drive to organize the tremendous numbers of unorganized workers in the oil, chemical, atomic and related industries.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT Earl Warren speaking at the 100th anniversary of Washington University in St. Louis, remarked: "A few days ago I read in the newspaper that a group of state employees . . . charged with the responsibility for determining what announcements could be posted on the employees' bulletin board refused to permit the Bill of Rights to be posted on the ground that it was a controversial document. . . Only after the Governor in writing vouchsafed for its non-controversial character was the Bill of Rights allowed to occupy a place. . . And this happened in the United States of America on the 15th day of December, 1954, the 163rd anniversary of our Bill of Rights, declared by proclamation of President Eisenhower to be Bill of Rights Day."

"WHAT'S GOOD FOR GM IS. . ." General Motors, the world's biggest corporation (but with

the biggest, tenderest heart — if you believe in fairy tales) did pretty well in 1954, considering the big sacrifice it made in lending C. E. Wilson to the Eisenhower administration. Its admitted assets went over the \$5 billion mark by the end of 1954. To be precise, \$5,130,093,595. GM's total assets in 1953 were \$4,404,475,042.

PINNING A POLITICIAN. Paul M. Butler, National Chairman of the Democratic Party, recently appeared on the program "Meet the Press." After he had stated that he "favored a declaration by party of principle on domestic issues," he was asked for a declaration on the eleven civil rights bills recently introduced into Congress. Butler's reply was that he hadn't read the bills so he couldn't comment on them. Pressed further by the interviewing reporters, Butler said that there were many more important things before Congress than civil rights legislation.

A NEW ANTI-NEGRO ORGANIZATION has been formed in Arkansas. Incorporation papers for White America were filed with the Arkansas Secretary of State recently. Stated aim of the group, which may be an Arkansas version of the White Citizens Councils, is "to promote, sponsor, foster and encourage the continued segregation of the Negro and white races."

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THE MILITANT



From Detroit

Some Democratic Skullduggery

The Sparks-Withington Co., makers of Spartan television sets, has threatened to move its factory from Jackson, Mich., unless its 600 workers "volunteer" to take an 18 cent hourly wage cut. Local 666 of the UAW-CIO has called a vote on the proposal.

The people of Michigan pay among the highest consumers taxes in the country.

This was one of the chief complaints of the CIO and AFL in last year's election.

Gov. Williams, backed by the labor movement, was re-elected last November on a platform opposing additional consumer taxes.

In January the Republicans introduced a road construction program involving an increase of two cents per gallon in the consumer tax paid on gasoline.

The CIO leaders denounced the plan, saying no added consumer taxes were justified until a corporation profits tax has been enacted.

Williams denounced the bill too, calling it a "political plunder-bund," and saying it "almost made him gag."

"Almost," but not quite. Less than a month later Williams accepted a "compromise," whereby the added consumer tax would be set at 1 1/2 cents rather than two cents.

The CIO said nothing. But the Democrats in the House, including several CIO members, voted unanimously for

the plan with the 1 1/2 cents increase.

And the state Democratic convention, including several CIO members, also adopted the plan unanimously.

And still there are some people who really believe that the CIO controls the Democratic Party in this state!

The Feb. 21 primary election in Wayne County showed a continuation of the same trend that appeared last November. All the labor-endorsed Democrats ran ahead, winning the "non-partisan" nominations for the April 4 run-offs. But a sharp scrap inside the Democratic Party looms in the races for two Circuit Court judgeships.

The two incumbents, Wade McCree and Theodore Bohn, have the support of Gov. Williams as well as labor, liberal and Negro forces. But they are being opposed by County Clerk Edgar Branigin and the racist mayor of Dearborn, Orville Hubbard. Reports are that Branigin is making deals with various Democratic leaders in the county to knife McCree and Bohn.

McCree, who ran first in the primary, will be a special target of the conservative Democrats because he is a Negro.

"They sure have automation" on the hood strainers line in the pressed steel unit of the Dodge Main plant, reports Helen Fitzel in the paper of UAW Local 3.

"It sure is a huge machine that they set up on that line. Where?

people worked on the line before, automation will take only 3 people. One, to feed the machine, another to observe if something goes wrong so he can have this checked or repaired, and the third operator hangs the hood strainer on the line."

"Watch out for the FBI," writes Alfred J. MacNeil of the Paint Unity of UAW Local 3 in the Dodge Main News. "Since we have been spraying colored jobs on the 5th floor, and many of them being the color investigated by Un-American Activities Committees, we learn from Brother Tom Shea of the graveyard shift in the Mixing Room that he refuses to fill the tank with the (excuse the expression) Red Paint. He claims that the new man on days is a Federal Agent in disguise and he doesn't want to be implicated in that stuff."

The nomination of Mrs. Margaret Connors Driscoll for judgeship by Connecticut Governor Abraham A. Ribicoff, was rejected on March 2 by the General Assembly after it had been confirmed by the state Senate.

Mrs. Driscoll is state legal council for the C.I.O. W. Sheffield Coles, House Speaker, said he didn't think she could be "fair-minded" because of her close relations with labor. Governor Ribicoff replied: "It will be a sad day for the state when we so please society that only lawyers who represent corporations and insurance companies can be judges."

Huge Fire Toll Charged to Vile Slum Housing

By Myra Tanner

"The greatest city in the world is surely, but not slowly, being permitted to deteriorate and decay. Slums are being created much faster than they are being eliminated." This was the conclusion of the King's County grand jury investigation of a Brooklyn tenement fire which took the lives of seven people.

But New York is not the only city that is in the process of decay. The cities and towns of America, meant to give shelter and protection to the lives of the people, are "surely, but not slowly," being transformed into disease-ridden, misery-laden fire traps that annually yield up their harvest of burned and crippled bodies.

THE SLUMS' HARVEST

The charred remains of 25 men were recovered from the "cage-like rooms" of the Barton Hotel in Chicago last month where poor men sought a night's rest for 60 cents.

Two brothers, ages nine and seven, were burned to death in Lafayette, New Jersey, as a six room house, in which four families lived, was gutted by fire. A small boy was burned to death in a tenement fire in Plainfield, N.J., leaving his "estate" of \$27.50 that he had saved while going to school.

In Youngstown, Ohio, with a population of about 200,000, six people were killed in a period of six weeks all of them victims of slum fires.

In New York City fires claimed the lives of 133 people during the period of the most publicized fire prevention campaign in the recent history of the city.

Everyone knows that the primary reason for these terrible tragedies is the growth of slums. The cities of America are rotting in decay and no one is doing anything to prevent it.

For the last eight years the population of the United States has been increasing at record pace. A new record was hit in 1954 with a population rise of 2,823,000. The rate of growth in the cities has been even greater than the general population growth.

RENT GOUGERS

How is this growing population to be housed? During World War II the government built temporary housing projects for "defense" workers. But with the peace the responsibility for housing was turned back to the private real estate interests. Prevention of slums is of little interest to these rent-gougers. As a result city buildings began to deteriorate rapidly as all available real estate money went into the construction of the higher-income "suburbia," so glowingly described by the Big Business magazine Fortune.

Despite the fact that private real estate interests have demonstrated that they will not push back the growth of slums, the federal government continues to reduce each year the allotment

for the construction of public housing. With total expenditures in the 1955-56 budget amounting to 62.4 billion, only \$35 million will go toward public housing. These figures forecast the steady growth of the slum sector of every city in the U.S.

As Daniel Carpenter, director of the Hudson Guild, pointed out: "Unless something bold and drastic is done, New York City, its government, its agencies, and its citizens will actually become a party to a situation wherein a generation or more of children will grow up living in the most primitive, unwholesome and fantastically bad conditions that this city has ever witnessed."

Local authorities, unable to cope with the growth of slums, flounder helplessly with ineffective "campaigns" to educate the inhabitants of fire-trap tenements in fire-prevention practices. Or they send out a few inspection squads to wander on the edge of a forest of safety violations. Or they plead with landlords and even occasionally threaten them.

COURAGEOUS FIREMEN

To make the danger even worse, fire-fighting equipment is growing obsolete. The increase in the number of firemen is not keeping pace with the increased number of fires. New York Fire Commissioner, Edward F. Cavanagh Jr., with 11,154 men in the Fire Department, pointed out, "Twenty-five years ago we had six or seven men on engines and ladder trucks. Today three or four men must raise the same ladders and carry the same hose. This is tearing the guts out of our men. It is a backward step in a mechanized age."

In the city of New York more than 100 firemen are injured each month and one fireman is killed in action every six weeks. But the courageous work of the fire-fighters is so poorly paid that the Department has difficulty recruiting replacement personnel.

Despite this, John A. Neale, chief engineer of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, who admits that lack of sufficient forces to fight fires "is general throughout the nation," gives as the cause: "Increased cost of maintaining fire departments. Working hours have been shortened and wages increased."

It doesn't occur to this expert to seek the cause for inadequate Fire Departments in the budget of the federal government, rather than in the meager improvements the fire fighters have won through union organization. While tens of billions of dollars are spent annually on war preparations the slums of American cities grow, fires consume more and more lives each year, and the fire-fighting army is undermanned, underpaid and poorly equipped.

Are You Living In Doom Town, U.S.A.?

By Theodore Kovalesky

Carpenters and masons, electricians and pipefitters, engineers and roofers are at work on the sands of the Nevada desert. A town is coming to life.

There will be homes with refrigerators and stoves in them. There will be industrial and office buildings. There will be a radio station and two electric substations. Food will be on the shelves and in the refrigerators of the homes. For a day or two after the town is completed it will live under the Nevada sun. And then it will die, quickly and completely.

The town will have a name, too. It will not be Foster's Corners or Dry Junction or anything like that. It won't be Evansburg or Allendale or Endicottville. It will be named Doom Town. Its location will be a place temporarily called Ground Zero.

RATS WILL TAKE OVER

Nobody is going to live in Doom Town. Construction workers are swarming now over the buildings there, eating their lunches at noon in the homes and buildings of the town. But when their work is finished they will climb into cars and buses and drive away over the desert, and the town will be empty of human life. A trained crew of men will enter it then, bringing with them the

town's new population, cages and cages of rats. Later these men too will leave, and the town and the homes with stoves and refrigerators and the rats will be left alone to wait.

Then at an appointed time the sky above Doom Town will burst open with blinding light and a deafening detonation. Once more the horrifying and symbolic mushroom cloud will climb upward. And when the air clears Doom Town will be gone. Once again our lives will have been scrutinized in the army's laboratory.

After a time teams of men will enter the area of scorched and poisoned earth to discover how it would have been, had you and I and our families been there beneath the bomb. Canned and frozen foods will be dug out of the crushed places that had been houses, their contents checked for radioactivity. The dead rats (ourselves, our bodies, as symbolized by the American government) will be searched for and inspected. Perhaps some will be found alive and carried away to be watched so that it will be known how long they will take to die of the poison of radioactivity.

SURVIVORS?

And later on, some representatives of the government will proclaim to the press that even

though the hydrogen bomb is dropped, somebody will undoubtedly be able to survive. Hundreds of thousands will die in one blinding instant. Millions more will die more slowly and with more anguish. But some, whose homes are on the outer edges of the area, who have been immured in deep shelters, who have followed elaborate and doubtless expensive precautions, some may live to resume life on a burnt and broken land.

Read of these plans of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Civil Defense Administration. Think about them. What can they mean?

They can mean only this. The Wall Street rulers of this menaced land are thinking of war. They are preparing for war. They are determined to have war. They are daily building more and greater bombs, and they plan to use them. What will their scientific tests mean to us? Will the Civil Defense Administration discover a new type of building that will resist the atomic bomb? And if they do, will you be able to build one to live in? Will any worker be able to buy a new bomb-proof home?

WHY WAR?

There need not be war. American ships and troops could be

brought back from the network of farflung bases where they stand poised for attack against every part of the world not now dominated by Wall Street. The rest of the world could be let alone to work out its own destiny, and there would be no need to test the destructive power of American imperialism. But what if this were done? Each day capitalism on a world scale would die a little, and its dead parts would drop off. Workers and peasants, colonial peoples would band together to take back what has been wrested from them by the force and violence of imperialism. The golden stream of profits from the rest of the world would slow to a trickle and then stop, and then American capitalism itself would clutch at its throat in mortal agony.

No! Better far to have war. Better by far to blast the cities of the world into scarred and smoky tatters. Better by far to stamp out the lives of millions. American capitalism must expand, must sink its talons into the world's riches, no matter where they are located. American capitalism must give orders to every national capital in the world. If it means total destruction, then let it be so. So speaks a frightened, desperate Wall Street, fearful for its own privileges, and

casually plotting the world's desolation.

"UNLESS . . ."

Doom Town will tell them many things. It will instruct them how — if indeed there is any way at all — to build their bomb-proof mansions. It will show them what their atrocity-weapon will do to enemy factories and populations. And it will show with precision the horrors that must be coped with by American victims of this super explosive.

Somewhere in the Nevada desert north of Las Vegas, Doom Town is even now being constructed. It is a place few of us will see. You who read this will probably not see it. But think of this: Where do you live today? New York? Los Angeles? Seattle, Buffalo, Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh? No. Unless the sinister Wall Street forces are stopped, those forces which are today leading this land into war just as surely as each nail is being pounded and each brick laid into the buildings of Doom Town, Nevada . . . unless these forces are stopped, the city you and I live in is . . . Doom Town!

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